FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 APRIL 1983

Lebanon Incident

Syrian forces opened fire at Israeli vehicles that advanced into the buffer zone near the As-Sa'luk checkpoint and began constructing fortifications, a Syrian military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Damascus radio on 26 April. The vehicles -- a bulldozer protected by a personnel carrier -- were forced to withdraw, the spokesman said. Confirming the incident, Jerusalem radio said the Syrians fired at a tractor working in the IDF-controlled area north of 'Ammiq. Nobody was hurt and the IDF did not return the fire, the radio said. The tractor continued its work after the incident.

Damascus radio subsequently carried another report on Israeli military movements in Lebanon and cited a TASS statement that Israeli preparations to deal a direct blow to Syria have entered "their final stage." Meanwhile, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported new Syrian tank and artillery deployments and also disclosed that the Iranian contingent in Al-Biqa' was recently reinforced.

Shultz Tour

Lebanon was the chief topic of discussion between Secretary of State George Shultz and Egyptian leaders in Cairo, Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, announced in a statement reported by MENA. President Husni Mubarak described his talks with Shultz as "extremely fruitful," MENA noted earlier. The Jordanian daily AR-RA'Y later disclosed that Mubarak will send an envoy to Amman soon to brief Jordanian officials on the talks with Shultz.

Welcoming Shultz at Ben-Gurion Airport on 27 April, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in remarks broadcast by IDF Radio that the secretary of state's visit to Israel will "no doubt contribute to the solution of the pending problems on the Lebanese issue." The Israelis have come to appreciate Shultz' earnest desire for "a deeper understanding" of Israel's concerns and objectives, Shamir declared. Earlier, Shamir told an EEC parliamentary group that Israel hopes to find solutions to some outstanding problems with Shultz' help, according to the radio.

Israeli Government sources cited by the radio said that, while Israel will help Shultz reach an agreement on Lebanon to the best of its ability, it will accept nothing that infringes on its security needs, "even if this increases tension with the United States." Israel rejects the idea that Shultz should not leave the Middle East without securing an agreement, the sources affirmed. According to Jerusalem radio, Shultz will tell the Israelis that an agreement with Lebanon backed by U.S. guarantees for the safety of Israeli's northern border will require a "curtailed status" for Major Sa'd Haddad. However, the new IDF chief of staff, Moshe Levi, has insisted that Maj Haddad head the security system established in southern Lebanon, the radio said.

Lebanese Position, Contacts -- President Amin al-Jumayyil told the political committee of the multinational force's higher liaison body that the Lebanese Army will be able to bear responsibility for guaranteeing security in the south and elsewhere, Beirut radio reported. Asserting that Lebanon is prepared to "go all the way" for the sake of peace, Al-Jumayyil expressed hope that Shultz will be able to solve Israeli-Lebanese differences.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan will leave for Saudi Arabia on 27 April to consult with King Fahd on the Lebanon negotiations, the radio revealed. Al-Wazzan may also visit Damascus for talks with President Hafiz al-Asad, the radio added.

Syrian Comment -- Syria's AL-BA'TH linked Israel's "escalation of its military provocations" in Lebanon with Shultz' tour, which "is no less dangerous" than those of his predecessors, according to Damascus radio's 27 April press review.

Israel

Relations With UK — A Foreign Ministry official summoned the British ambassador to protest recent statements by the British foreign secretary as well as British contacts with the PLO, Jerusalem radio reported.

West Bank — Minister Without Portfolio Mordekhay Ben-Porat's office has drawn up a plan to transfer thousands of Palestinian refugees from their camps in Judaea and Samaria to permanent dwellings, Jerusalem radio reported. In a separate development the Jerusalem district authorities banned the east Jerusalem PALESTINE PRESS AGENCY's daily newsletter, which has provided foreigners with a major source of information about West Bank developments during the past 4 years, THE JERUSALEM POST reported.

Oil Slick Talks in Kuwait

The ministerial council of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment failed to agree on how to cap the leaking Iranian oil wells but did reach agreement on a unified plan to fight pollution caused by the oil slick, the Kuwaiti health minister announced in a statement reported by the Manama paper GULF DAILY NEWS. Indicating that political differences between Iran and Iraq again prevented agreement on action to close the Nowruz wells, the Iranian ambassador to Kuwait told a press conference that "nonenvironmental" reasons were the cause of the failure to solve the problem, KUNA reported. While the Iraqis insist that any agreement should provide for a cease-fire in the affected area, Iran refuses a cease-fire and says the wells can be capped merely by ensuring the safety of the repair teams, KUNA noted.

Inter-Arab Affairs

A Saudi envoy delivered a message from King Fahd to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri while the Jordanian foreign minister continued his Gulf tour with a brief visit to Kuwait, according to reports by SUNA and KUNA.

Saudi Arabia

Noting that King Fahd is scheduled to inaugurate a gold mine northeast of Jidda on 30 April, Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani told the magazine AL-YAMAMAH that Saudi Arabia will be one of the most important exporters of metals by the 1990's, Riyadh Radio reported. Yamani also predicted that the current $29 oil marker price will remain in effect until the end of 1985 at least.

Afghanistan Talks — Substantial progress toward a comprehensive settlement of the Afghan problem was made at the second round of indirect talks in Geneva, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan announced at an Islamabad press conference reported by Karachi radio. Noting that Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov has indicated that Soviet forces may withdraw from Afghanistan, Yaqub Khan said an overall settlement requires agreement on the return of Afghan refugees.

Afghan Amnesty — The DRA's amnesty for various categories of prisoners excludes people imprisoned for supporting four mujahidin groups, according to New Delhi diplomatic sources cited by AFP. President Babrak Karmal announced the amnesty to mark the fifth anniversary of the April Revolution.

Pakistan

The authorities closed higher educational institutions in Peshawar after 1 student was killed and 22 were injured in factional clashes, Karachi radio reported.

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Fatah Official on Beirut Bombing, Soviet Ties
GF260928 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Interview with Saqr Abu Nizar, secretary general of the Fatah Revolutionary Council by Aden Voice of Palestine radio correspondent — date and place not given; recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Brother Saqr, what about the recent Jordanian-Palestinian communique that ended the Jordanian-Palestinian talks on the Palestinian cause? Do you expect the talks to resume shortly and how do you envisage the future of the Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the stands of the other concerned Arab parties?

[Answer] Actually, the nature of the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship as embodied in the decisions of the PNC is special and distinguished in terms of the welfare of both peoples. The PNC, in its decisions, has stressed work for a future confederal relationship between two independent states. Palestine and Jordan have agreed to a political action within the Arab framework according to the Fes summit decisions, which the PNC has considered the minimum of political action.

[Question] Moving to another subject, the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut was characterized by its accuracy and audacity of execution and resulted in severe losses to the Americans. Would you shed light on that?

[Answer] Some may be surprised by the bombing of the embassy of U.S. imperialism in Beirut. But the Lebanese realize that their land is occupied by the Zionist aggression and that new U.S. forces have come to support the Zionist enemy in occupying parts which they do not control — even if this is under the slogan of introducing multinational forces to protect the Lebanese and the Palestinian camps. These forces have proven since the beginning that they came to aid Zionist aggression. This was clearly evident in their sudden withdrawal in order to allow the massacres of Sabra and Shatila. It has become clear that the U.S. forces —the U.S. Marines — are the new occupiers of the Lebanese territories alongside the Zionist occupiers. So, it is the right of the Lebanese to work to expel the occupation in all its forms.

The Lebanese realize that U.S. imperialism and Zionist forces are their basic enemies. Moreover, the Lebanese also realize that any Arab forces that support them while present on Lebanese soil — whether they are Palestinian or Syrian forces — work to impose the withdrawal of the aggressor forces, which are the imperialists, the Zionist forces, and the enemy forces, and not the friendly forces associated with Lebanon through ties of brotherhood, friendship, and nationality.

[Question] FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH reports that the Soviet envoy, who met with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] in San'a' 2 weeks ago, conveyed the Soviet Union's determination to make changes during the next months in support of the Palestinian and Arab cause. What is meant by these changes?

[Answer] We must understand the current Soviet (?stand), which is represented by the Soviet leader, Andropov, in his clearly anti-imperialist (?policy), which indicates that the imperialists should not be given the chance to score victories at the expense of [words indistinct]. The Soviet Union [words indistinct], in the event of a hotter confrontation, not only in the Middle East, but also in Europe and in (?other regions) of the world [world indistinct] medium-range nuclear weapons and in other fields. We see that the Soviet Union has declared certain stands which imply that it has new (?factors) of support for the people that are more than those of the previous regime which are the result of circumstances that the Soviets know better than us.

We can say that after the completion of the Beirut Airport operation and after the evacuation of the Palestinian fighters, Soviet relations with Syria, for example, developed in the field of armament. The Soviet Union provided Syria with new sophisticated weapons which can be a strategic surprise in any future aggression or in any war that might erupt between the Arabs and the Zionist entity. Just as the SAM-6'sin the 1974 October war were a strategic surprise, we expect the new sophisticated weapons to be a strategic surprise because tyrannical, imperialist aggression is trying to dominate, not only in our Arab region but also in most of the world's regions.

The Soviet Union, which declares that it is the amicable friend to liberation movements and oppressed countries and peoples, must adopt a stand which will confirm these (?provisions). What we expect from the new factors is based on the Soviet Union's clear and frank stand against imperialism and its agents all over the world.

PLO's Abu Mayzar Affirms Rejection of Reagan Plan
LD262224 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has stressed the adherence of the organization to its stand rejecting the Reagan plan. He denied the existence of any differences on this point.

In a press statement Brother 'Abu Mayzar explained that the U.S. initiative denies the unchanging right of the Palestinian people to return, to self-determination, and to the establishment of an independent state. It also denies the existence of the PLO. The initiative is a continuation of the U.S. policy which is hostile to Palestinian and Arab rights. It is a new link in the chain of the Camp David line which was condemned by the Arab nation, and first of all by the Palestinian people.

Brother Abu Mayzar noted that the PNC is not content with rejecting this initiative; it also calls for it to be effectively opposed because it is a liquidationist scheme which complements the Camp David agreements, and contradicts the international legality which has approved and confirmed the unchanging national rights of the Palestinian people to a homeland.

Brother Abu Mayzar added: There is a difference in viewpoints between the Jordanian Government and us; things are as they are now because the Executive Committee cannot opt out of its commitments to the rights and aims of the Palestinian people, but despite the difference in viewpoints during the talks which took place, we do not advocate side battles and we work for

strengthening and developing the Arab stand on the basis of adhering to the aims of the Palestinian and pan-Arab struggle for liberating the land and recovering the Palestinian national rights.

Brother Abu Mayzar denounced recent statements by U.S. officials, describing them as arrogant, insolent, disdainfu, and interfering in the affairs of the Arab nation. He also announced that the Zionist threats and military concentrations which are directed at the forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa', corroborate reports we received about a new Zionist aggression against the Palestinian revolution in Al-Biqa' and the north.

Abu Mayzar affirmed that the Palestinians will confront aggression by effective and decisive replies beyond the Al-Biqa' borders. Military and political repercussion will also go beyond the confines of positions which the enemy is planning to contain.

PLO Urges Protection of Palestinians in Lebanon

JN261714 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The PLO has called on the Arab League and international organizations to act in the various international arenas to halt the Zionist campaign whose objective is to deport the Palestinians from their camps in southern Lebanon.

This was contained in an urgent memorandum the PLO sent to the Arab League, competent UN organizations, and the International Committee of the Red Cross in the wake of the Zionist enemy's deportation 2 days ago of 60 Palestinians who were detained in Ansar camp.

The memorandum stated that these Palestinian citizens were deported to northern Lebanon where Lebanese authorities and Phalangist militias took their identity cards, despite the fact that they have the right to reside in Lebanon in accordance with Arab and international agreements and conventions.

The PLO called on the Lebanese Government to stop these measures, since it is the host country, and to remain committed to the agreements which grant Palestinians the right to reside and work in Lebanon.

PLO's Al-Fahum Interviewed on PLO-Husayn Talks

LD262121 Helsinki International Service in Finnish 1500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Summary] "According to Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the PNC, the PLO is ready to continue talks with King Husayn of Jordan. However, the PLO does not at any stage intend to give up its right to represent the Palestinian people, Al-Fahum said at a news conference held in Helsinki,today." Hannu Reime reports:

The talks between PLO leader 'Arafat and King Husayn on whether the PLO is prepared to let King Husayn negotiate on its behalf in talks on the basis of President Reagan's plan for Middle East peace are officially broken off.

"Kalid al-Fahum, chairman of the PNC, says that talks with Husayn will continue."

[Begin Al-Fahum recording in English fading into Finnish translation] "But talks, if they are going to be continued, must be continued upon the basis of the Fes summit resolutions. King Husayn also accepted the resolutions. According to these resolutions, the PLO represents the Palestinians and it will not hand over this right to Jordan, nor to any other Arab state. The talks with Jordan are part of PLO policy aimed at maintaining good relations with all Arab countries, but the PLO will not hand over its right to represent the Arabs of Palestine to anybody."[end recording]

"But what if King Husayn will himself start negotiations on the basis of the Reagan plan, Al-Fahum was asked."

"I do not think that he will do so despite the fact that the United states will pressure him in this direction, Chairman al-Fahum replied. He stressed that the PLO's stand critical of the United States is not for ideological reasons but because the United States supports Israel so strongly. Instead of putting pressure on Israel, with which it would have good possibilities, it puts pressure on the Arab countries to back such solutions which do not grant the right to self-determination for the Palestinians and the right to a state of their own. It is precisely this failure to take into account the Palestinians' right of self-determination that is the reason the PLO is adopting a negative stance to President Reagan's plan. Chairman al-Fahum mentioned the Fes summit resolution and the plan by the deceased Soviet leader, Brezhnev, as plans acceptable to the PLO. Both of them recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the security of all states in the region."

"When asked whether this means that the PLO thus also recognizes Israel's right to exist, Chairman al-Fahum said that this is the case. At the same time he stressed that Israel should give up its policy aimed at the destruction of the Palestinians."

Dr as-Sartawi, one of the strongest supporters of a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, was murdered recently in Lisbon.

"When I asked Chairman al-Fahum for his views on the reasons for the Dr as-Sartawi's murder he refused to give any assessment and referred to the fact that the Portuguese authorities are currently investigating the case. On the other hand, a journalist present, evidently from Syria, asked Al-Fahum about relations between Syria and the PLO. In his reply, Chairman al-Fahum expressed the hope that these relations and the atmosphere between the PLO and Syria would improve."

Syria has protected the groups which are responsible for — or at least approved — As-Sartawi's murder.

Arab League's Klibi on PLO Representation
PM260846 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 24 Apr 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Shultz Tour Begins With a Reagan Statements Crisis"]

[Excerpt] At Arab League Headquarters in Tunis Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, commenting on President Reagan's statements, reaffirmed the Palestinian people's right to self-determination under PLO leadership as well as their right to their own state on their own soil and homeland.

He added: To deny the PLO representation with such frankness can yield no result other than ruling out any possibility of a settlement for the Palestinian question. It does not facilitate the initiation of the march toward the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

He noted that President Reagan's statements have come as another disappointment to the Arabs at a time when the Arab world was expecting the U.S. Administration to take the initiative in opening new horizons and reviving the issue.

Klibi suggested that the U.S. Administration organize free elections under UN supervision to get irrefutable evidence of the PLO's right to speak for the Palestinian masses.

GULF AFFAIRS

KUNA: Gulf Ministers Meet to Discuss Oil Slick

LD261454 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1429 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Apr (KUNA) — The Ministerial Council of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment held its long-awaited meeting here this afternoon despite a political disagreement between Iran and Iraq, which has so far prevented an agreement on the method of combatting the oil slick that threatens to pollute the shores of the Gulf countries. The participating countries, representing the GCC states, in addition to Iran and Iraq failed to hold a meeting this morning, and instead they conducted side consultations on points of disagreement.

But the conference sources deem it unlikely that a solution will be reached by those meetings: It is more probable that they will formulate a final statement about the meeting outlining the points of disagreement. Sources of the Iranian delegation said before the meeting that the problem lies between the Iranian and Iraqi Governments and that neither delegation is authorized to adopt any position.

The disagreement between the two warring countries had obstructed two previous attempts by the Ministerial Council to meet here during the month.

Ministers of the member states conducted bilateral consultations on arrival here last night in an attempt to sign an agreement that ensures the capping of the damaged Iranian oil wells in Nowruz oil field, which have leaked more than 7,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf waters since the beginning of last month.

The organization's two previous meetings failed to be convened officially because of Iraq's insistence that the agreement should contain an (?objective) truce between Iran and Iraq in the region of the destroyed wells. But Iran refuses a cease-fire and says that all that is required for repairing the wells is ensuring the safety of the teams that will be working on repairing these wells which have so far polluted more than 8,000 square miles of the Gulf waters.

No Agreement Reached

LD261859 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1754 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Apr (KUNA) — Tonight the Ministerial Council of the (Regional) Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME) failed to reach agreement on how to combat the pollution in the Gulf waters. Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Awadi, executive secretary general of the organization and Kuwaiti health minister, and 'Ali 'Shams Ardakani, current chairman of the conference and Iranian ambassador after the meeting said at a joint press conference held by the Ministerial Council of the organization that there are nonenviromental reasons that prevented the achievement of a solution with regard to stopping the leakage from the Iranian oil well at Nowruz.

The two officials were referring to political differences between the two warring states, Iraq and Iran, over the draft agreement that would allow the leakage to be fought. [passage indistinct]

KUWAIT

Press Skeptical of Shultz Mideast Visit

LD261105 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Apr (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti papers today write skeptically about the current Middle East visit of the U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz, expressing fears about the possibilities of his failure to find a way out of the tough Lebanese-Israeli crisis.

The papers unanimously agree that "first and foremost, the visit of the U.S. secretary of state aims to restore credence to his country in the region and to bring reassurance to America's friends and allies. They expect him to bring something new that has not been disclosed yet, otherwise he would not have been sent by Washington at this particular time."

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM asks "What miracles will he perform to prove that Washington can do something if its pledges to, since he has come to the region too late, and following a series of negative American attitudes, foremost the detraction from the legitimacy of the PLO?"

In the light of Israel's persistence in amassing forces and building airports in the areas it occupies in Lebanon, the paper points out, George Shultz looks "as though he has come to ask for Arab help to save the United States from its impasse with Israel after all that Washington has built on the Egyptian-Israeli Camp David accords, which were signed under its supervision, and which are now in the hands of the devil."

The paper adds that "Shultz' present visit comes at a time when rumors abound that the aim of his visit is not to revive President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace initiative nor to tidy up the situation in Lebanon but to find a way out of the nightmare of Soviet presence in the region." "The Arabs," the paper says, "have come to realize as a result of America's plotting and coercion that the game in which Washington is inviting them to participate serves none other than the United States and Israel. The Soviets have wisely and patiently been monitoring developments and absorbing the new facts, forces, and currents in the region."

The paper adds that "through following the developments in the region, the Soviets have come to realize that the USSR, which lost its head because of its assumption of the lone role in the Middle East [words indistinct] which it achieved through the Israeli stick, was bound to fall in the trap."

AR-RA'Y AL'AMM Examines Arab-Zionist Conflict

GF261830 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Apr 83 p 1

[Excerpts] After all these U.S. insults, we wonder how could an Arab official shake hands, just shake hands, with a U.S. official.

The fact is that U.S. practices have exceeded the limits of forbearance. They consist of daily, round-the-clock slaps to Arab dignity — a programmed humiliation that never before took place.

Sometimes — and perhaps more than just sometimes — one of us is overwhelmed with the desire to use foul and vulgar language in talking about the United States. We think that an Arab, any Arab, does not mention the name of this outrageous state without abuse. But Washington does not care whether the people love it or not. It cannot even become lovable, and who can afford to love a snake or a wolf?

The problem with the United States is that it deals with a status quo. That is why it fails and that is why it finds itself face to face with the nations.

It is also obvious that some Arabs suffer from the same problem and think in the American way. However, the movement of history, which is the movement of nations, will never abate even if it appears, sometimes as if it were frozen or still. But, like rivers, it has highs and lows.

There is no room for tranquilizers in the Arab-Zionist conflict, for it is a real life-or-death conflict. This is no exaggeration. Those who imagine it to be something else think that it is a mirage before them.

This game simply aims at dragging the Arabs toward submission. The Americans and the Zionists realized the existance of this conflict and thus they have never changed course. But they cheat us with alternatives which some people call peace.

It is most probable that the Soviets, in their turn, have realized this fact too. Hence, they bet on the movement of Arab history. What remains, regrettably, is that we the Arabs have not yet realized this fact.

Lebanon's Al-Wazzan, Delegation Arrive in Riyadh

LD271111 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1010 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Apr (SPA) — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and an accompanying delegation arrived her today for a short visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal the foreign minister, and a number of officials.

Secretary of State Shultz' Mideast Tour Viewed

Riyadh Commentary

LD261406 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Apr 83

[From the "Analyses" program, by Hamzah Muhsin as-Saqqaf]

[Text] At the start of his Middle East tour, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz expressed optimism about a possible withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. He told pressmen on his arrival in Cairo yesterday that he is prepared to embark on shuttle trips between occupied Palestine and Lebanon and probably Syria to attain this objective and to reach an agreement which would end the shuttle negotiations over withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon.

This statement reflects the strategic dimension in the U.S. attitude toward the situation in the Middle East which is based on using a solution of the Lebanese problem as a prelude for a comprehensive solution covering the whole area. This would be based on widening the scope of negotiations and their dossiers so as to include the Palestine question.

In an attempt to absorb the true positions of all parties, the U.S. secretary of state made it a point to precede his meeting with heads of states of the countries included in his Middle East tour, by an expanded meeting of the U.S. ambassadors to these countries, who were on hand to welcome him on his arrival in Cairo. It seems that Shultz' meeting with the ambassadors, which was also attended by the entire American (?red alert) team [al-fariq al-ahmar al-amriki] on this tour, has given an optimistic character to the U.S. secretary of state's remarks about his ability to attain the objective for which he embarked on this tour. This tour is the first of its kind since he assumed his post, and is very crucial compared with similar tours by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Despite the crucial conditions engulfing Shultz' visit to the Middle East, and despite the difficulties facing it in regard to both the Lebanese and Palestine problems, the U.S. secretary of state has to [word indistinct] stands in the Middle East armed with a spirit of optimism and confidence taking into consideration his dire need in this difficut task for the adoption of a long-term policy. This is what he intimated by expressing readiness to embark on shuttle trips which could continue until 10 May.

In view of the optimistic and confident statements uttered by the White House and by State Department circles, the various reactions in the Middle East have been characterized by waiting for the results of the U.S. secretary of state's tour, which might turn out to be results which could act as a link between the U.S. role and the roles of other parties concerned with peace in the Middle East — foremost among which is the Arab role eptomized by the Arab peace plan of the Fes summit conference.

On the eve of Shultz' visit, the U.S. State Department leaked reports about the possible announcement of what these reports described as a new initiative, to be made public at the start of the U.S. secretary of state's tour during his visit to Cairo. This was interpreted by observers as being a mere balloon intended to test the extent of the various parties' confidence in the American role.

It seems that any attempt to revive the American role in the Middle East will not entail more than a minor change which the U.S. secretary of state could introduce into President Reagan's plan after prior agreement with the White House, which pins all hopes for the continuation of its role in the region on the Shultz tour and his shuttle trips.

Since it was the White House which first urged him to embark on this tour and to contribute to the efforts being exerted, the

likelihood of the announcement of what U.S circles describe as a new initiative, which is a somewhat exaggerated description, can be seen in light of the White House's attitude as a reflection of the need for the State Department and George Shultz to make a tangible move in regard to the situation in the Middle East. This could probably place Shultz in a position to secure an authorization from the U.S. President to take steps to bring about rapprochement with the other parties.

Saudi Dailies Comment

GF270622 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The newspapers AR-RIYAD, AL-MADINAH, and AL-JAZIRAH write about U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to the Middle East region and the recent efforts of the U.S. Administration to confront the Israeli intrasigence.

Under the headline, "Shultz and a Crisis Without Solution," AR-RIYAD notes that the Arab region is facing three main problems constituting the factors of chronic conflict in the present and future, as the newspaper put it. These problems are first, the Iraqi-Iranian war; second, the situation in Lebanon and solution problem; and third and most important, the Palestinian cause.

The newspaper goes on to say: "The fresh fighting that broke out between the Israeli enemy forces and the Syrian forces yesterday might not hamper the U.S. secretary's visit, but it is a sign of the failure to solve the Lebanese crisis on one hand, and the stalemated state of peace on the other."

AL-MADINAH says: "The Arabs have offered their utmost for the sake of restoring their legitimate rights and have presented the principles of Fes summit for achieving peace. In return, Israel did not offer anything except arbitrary and hostile practices. Nonetheless, Washington does nothing except give negative signs to the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular. In light of these considerations, Shultz' visit might be successful in terms of public relations, but it will fail as far as actual accomplishment is concerned."

AL-JAZIRAH expects that Israel will launch a war against Syria that might include Jordan as well if the Lebanese do not accept what Israel wants from them as a price for their freedom and national sovereignty, or if the United States does not exercise its pressuring predominence against Israel.

Under the headline, "The Emergency Summit, When and How," 'UKAZ writes: "Since the Palestinian-Jordanian talks stopped, high-level contacts have been in progress to eliminate the disagreement which caused the talks to stop. Undoubtedly, these efforts have made tangible progress that will allow for the resumption of talks in light of a full Arab conviction."

The newspaper concludes: "The results of the Arab and international contacts currently in progress will determine when and how the emergency Arab summit will be held."

Further Press Comment

LD261001 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0645 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Riyad, 26 Apr (SPA) -- The newspapers AL-YAWM, 'UKAZ and AR-RIYAD comment today on the current Middle East tour of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the role that the United States could play in finding a just and lasting solution for the Middle East crisis and in halting the repeated Zionist aggressions against the Arab nation.

Under the headline "American Credibility With Regard to the Events in the Region" AL-YAWM writes that U.S. credibility now hangs in a difficult balance: for in the eyes of the U.S. Admininistration the United States has a great deal of interest in the Zionist entity, whereas the United States also has far greater interests in the Arab world.

The United States can stop the Zionists from persisting with their aggression and force them to abandon it, the paper writes, but it is evident that it does not want to do that. Otherwise, why does the United States not take a clear step which would make us, the Arabs, trust its intentions? With things as they are, neither Shultz nor any of the other envoys now touring the Middle East will be able to affect the course of events in one way or another.

Under the headline "Credibility of Shultz' Pledges" the newspaper 'UKAZ writes: The U.S. secretary of state's pledge to remain in the region until an agreement is reached in Lebanon necessitates another complementary and juxtaposed pledge about reaching a formula for negotiations over the future of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, guaranteeing for the Palestinians true representation through the PLO with the participation of the principal parties in the Middle East conflict on the basis of the Arab plan. The American views in this respect should be close to those expressed in the Arab peace plan, which has been unanimously approved by the Arab nation.

The paper describes Shultz' pledge as an important development in the American political performance in the region which is being conducted by U.S. envoy Philip Habib

We wish to affirm, the paper adds, that Shultz' success in restoring Washington's credibility in the Middle East depends largely on settling this special relationship in a manner which would put matters in their true perspective, that is that Israel does not have the final say in Washington, and that Washington realizes that the Arab states will not accept the imposition of conditions on them whatever their nature.

The paper assumes that the U.S. Administration has sent Shultz to the region with something new which would greatly meet the legitimate Arab and Palestinian demands despite the statements made by U.S. President Ronald Reagan with regard to the PLO. The paper adds: We must remind U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that the Arab nation will not accept a repetition of President Reagan's statements about the PLO, because we and all the Arab nation consider it the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people, and dealings with it must be based on reality. Without this, it will be difficult to pursue any constructive dialogue for the establishment of lasting and just peace in the Middle East including Lebanon, the paper affirms.

In conclusion, 'UKAZ writes: We have great hopes pinned on Shultz visit but the perils are numerous. However, we hope the U.S. secretary of state will be able to overcome these perils.

Minister Announces Environmental Policy

GF261201 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and chairman of the coordination committee for environmental protection, has announced that the Kingdom is currently finalizing a long-term national policy on environmental protection and amelioration all over the Kingdom.

In a speech he made on Gulf Marine Environment Day, which falls today, Sunday, Prince Sultan said this policy has always been implemented through pioneer projects such as the projects of stopping sand dunes in Al-Ahsa', the national parks project, the environmental standards system for controlling pollution, automatic stations for monitoring the quality of air in the Kingdom, and many other projects that will be carried out soon.

His highness affirmed that the Kingdom, amid the comprehensive development it is undergoing, realizes the negative effects that accompanied the industrial and economic growth of the advanced countries and tries to avoid the harmful effects of rapid growth to the health and comfort of mankind, the characteristics of environmental media, and the productivity of natural biological and nonbiological resources — not only for the sake of our generation but for the sake of the generations to come.

Yamani Comments on Gold Mine, Oil Prices

LD261309 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] On Saturday, King Fabd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will inaugurate the gold mine 370 km northeast of Jidda.

Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Ahmad Zaki Yamani has said that inauguration of the mine by the king places the Kingdom at the threshold of the age of mining in which petroleum does not play a major role. This affirms that the Kingdom is working diligently along the road of active development, he said, adding that the Kingdom is very rich in precious metals which should be prospected quickly in order to give mining a boost.

He expressed his belief that as a result of extensive scientific study and constant prospecting, many metals will be discovered in the eighties and they will be immediately exploited. In the 1990's, he said, the Kingdom will be among the most important exporters of metals, if not the most important.

In an interview with AL-YAMAMAH magazine, Yamani spoke of the major role played by the Kingdom in protecting the international petroleum market and to save it from collapse as a result of recent developments. Had it not been for the Kingdom's efforts, he said, the price would have fallen to the lowest level possible. He affirmed that King Fahd's intensive contacts with the head of state of OPEC member countries were directly responsible for the success of the London conference. Thanks to its huge petroleum resources, he said, the Kingdom succeeded in closing ranks.

He said that the Kingdom's leading role within OPEC is a silent one which we exercise with our colleagues in the GCC. We have not sought this leadership but we have willingly accepted responsibility for this role, and with the agreement of the other members, he said. He added that all indications show that oil setbacks have ended and that the current price will remain, particularly if the OPEC member countries show restraint, as they have committed themselves to do at present. He said non-OPEC oil countries such as Britain and Mexico now cooperate with OPEC to the maximum possible degree both on the level of production and on prices.

Yamani affirmed that non-OPEC oil-producing countries have a great vested interest in cooperating with OPEC. Some of them have already begun contacting us to coordinate policies with us, anud coordination has been completed indeed on various levels, he said.

Speaking of the new oil prices, Ahmad Zaki Yamani said the oil price agreed in London serves the interest of all. He said: From the start, the Kingdom felt that any price above $28 would not be in the interest of the producers. For various reasons, he said, we had to raise prices above that level. But it must be noted, he added, that $28 at that time equals $29 now if inflation is taken into consideration.

Yamani affirmed that the London agreement was a triumph for the Kingdom's views and confirms the soundness of what the Kingdom advocates. He discounted any likelihood that oil prices would rise within the next 3-6 months. He expressed his belief that the current price of $29 will remain in force until the end of 1985 at least. This is because demand for oil will not increase to the extent that meets OPEC's needs. He said that because of inflation, the new price will fall a little as a result of the fall in price from $34 to $29, but consumption will increase in accordance with the principle of flexibility of demand. It will lead gradually to a move from the use of coal to the use of petroleum.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Returns From Gulf Tour

GF261402 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and foreign minister; 'Abdallah Sa'id ('Abddan), deputy planning minister; and the accompanying delegation returned to Aden today after concluding a tour of Saudi Arabi, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and YAR.

YAR

PDRY Foreign Minister Departs 26 April

GF261400 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The brother foreign minister of the southern part of the homeland left today after concluding a 2-day visit to San'a' during which he conveyed a message to brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, dealing with consultation and coordination between the two parts.

In a pre-departure statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY Doctor ad-Dali noted that he carried a response message from the brother president to his Brother President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He pointed out that during his visit he discussed with Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr current Arab and international situations.

Upon departure he was seen off by the brother foreign minister in addition to a representative from the protocol office in the Foreign Ministry.

Djibouti President Visits, Meets With Leaders

GF240808 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, (?conferred) today with Djibouti President Hassan Gouled at the presidential palace. They discussed a number of issues dealing with bilateral relations, with Arab issues and with issues of common interest.

The brother president, the secretary general of the General People's Congress, received this afternoon the Djibouti president and the accompanying delegation. The Yemeni and the Djibouti sides held a discussion session in which the Yemeni side was led by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and the Djibouti side was led by Djibouti President Hassan Gouled. A number of officials from both sides attended the meeting.

SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the talks included agreement to take new steps in the direction of developing new horizons in the existing cooperation between the two countries in various fields including the cultural, education, information, press and (?fields). The two sides also agreed that Djibouti students who wish to attend Yemeni schools and colleges and various institutions in our country will able to do so.

Visit Ends 25 April

GF251326 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] San'a', 25 Apr (WAKH) — Djibouti President Hassan Gouled left San'a' today after concluding a 3-day visit to the YAR. During the visit, President Gouled held talks with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih focusing on developing bilateral cooperation in various fields. The two sides also reviewed the developments in the Palestinian issue and issues of common interest.

Reportage on Visit by U.S. Secretary Shultz

Mubarak, Shultz Hold Talks

NC261338 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at Al-Qubbah Palace. The members of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations held a side meeting at Al-Qubbah Palace while President Mubarak and George Shutlz were meeting.

The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian Ambassador to the United States Dr Ashraf Ghurbal and Director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz. The Egyptian delegation was joined later by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din.

On the U.S. side, the meeting was attended by U.S. presidential Middle East envoy Philip Habib, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Nicholas Veliotes, official in charge of the Middle East desk at the State Department Richard Fairbanks, and U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Alfred Atherton.

Three hours after the start of the meeting between President Mubarak and Shultz, they were joined by the members of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations.

At the conclusion of the talks, President Mubarak delivered a short speech in which he welcomed George Shultz, who is visiting the Middle East for the first time. In his speech, the president expressed hope for the success of the U.S. secretary of state's tour of the area. President Mubarak said that he held lengthy talks with Shultz which dealt with bilateral relations between the two countries, which he described as extremely good.

The president said: We also discussed the Middle East problem and the negotiations currently taking place between Israel and Lebanon with the help of the United States to bring about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and we exchanged views.

President Mubarak emphasized the need for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. President Mubarak said: We have received a written message from President Reagan on the Middle East problem.

At the conclusion of his speech, President Mubarak expressed the hope that Shultz' current tour will produce good results for the whole area.

The U.S. secretary of state replied with a speech in which he greeted President Mubarak and extended thanks to the president for his hospitality. He said that he thinks that the celebrations which are currently taking place on the occasion of the anniversary of the return of Sinai to Egypt confirm what can be done through negotiations, which in turn lead to the achievement of peace and produce results that cannot be achieved through violence or the use of force.

President Husni Mubarak has declared that he has received a written message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the current Middle East problem. In a statement to the press following his meeting with the U.S. secretary of state, which was joined by the members of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations, President Mubarak welcomed Shultz' first visit to the area.

President Mubarak said: It was a good opportunity to welcome Mr Shultz here in Cairo on his first visit to the area. We held lengthy talks on Egyptian-U.S. relations, which we regard as extremely good and in the best of shape.

He added that during the meeting they discussed the Middle East problem and the negotiations currently taking place between Israel and Lebanon with the help of the United States to reach an agreement on a complete withdrawal from Lebanese territory, and that they exchanged various views in this regard.

President Mubarak described this morning's talks as extremely fruitful. He expressed the hope that Shultz' tour of the area will produce results beneficial to all the parties concerned. [passage indistinct]

Asked about President Mubarak's talks with him on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, Secretary of State Shultz said that President Mubarak stressed the need for the quick achievement of a solution to this problem, the importance of the withdrawal of all the forces from Lebanon in order to achieve a real solution and the need to enable Lebanon to govern itself.

Shultz added: I think that this expresses the views of the Egyptian president and the U.S. President, and they both are in agreement in this regard.

Asked whether he will submit a proposal to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin for the formation of a U.S.-Lebanese force to supervise the withdrawal from southern Lebanon, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz said: We shall first listen to the views. We do not have a specific plan.

He said: Despite the progress that has been achieved in the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations with the help of U.S. Middle East envoy Philip Habib and his assistant Morris Draper, what is important is to achieve a solution that satisfies all the parties and defines the relations between Israel and Lebanon.

Asked whether the Palestinian role has been discussed in these negotiations, Shultz said that there is no Palestinian role in the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel. Their role lies in their agreement to withdraw to enable Lebanon to enjoy full sovereignty.

He added: We expected them to fulfill the promise they gave to the Lebanese government to withdraw.

Asked whether he agrees with Shultz' view, President Mubarak said: Of course, the Palestinians have nothing to do with the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel.

He added: We reaffirm the principle that we have repeatedly announced regarding the need for the withdrawal of all forces from Lebanon.

Asked what advice he will give to the PLO within the context of Reagan plan, President Mubarak said: We have supported Reagan's plan from the start, and we have announced this many times. It is a golden opportunity to support the Reagan plan to make it possible to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the whole problem. Therefore, we have repeatedly urged the Palestinians to declare the establishment of a link with Jordan to help the U.S. President, who still in effect supports his principles.

He expressed the belief that the declaration of such a link as soon as possible would make it possible to start negotiations for a comprehensive settlement.

Asked whether it is possible to convince Israel to withdraw, Shultz said: It is certainly possible, but we shall see.

Asked whether U.S. aid to Egypt was discussed, President Mubarak said: We always discuss this at every meeting, because it is one of the spheres which [word indistinct] in the framework of our bilateral relations.

The U.S. secretary of state will attend an expanded meeting this evening at the Foreign Ministry in which the members of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations will take part.

Delegations Join Meeting

NC261721 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Apr (MENA) — The Egyptian and U.S. delegations joined the 3-hour meeting that was held between President Husni Mubarak and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din also joined the Egyptian side to the talks.

Officials Talk With Shultz

NC262105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Apr (MENA) — A session of talks was held this evening between the Egyptian side led by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the U.S. side led by Secretary of State George Shultz to discuss subjects related to the peace process in light of this morning's talks between President Husni Mubarak and the U.S. secretary of state.

The talks, which were held at At-Tahrir Club, were attended on the Egyptian side by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali; Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs; Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal; Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid; Minister Plenipotentiary Ra'uf Ghunaym,and a number of aides.

Attending on the U.S. side were U.S. Middle East envoy Philip Habib; U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton; Richard Fairbanks, deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern affairs; and Ambassador Cluverius.

The talks lasted approximately 1 hour and both the Egyptian and the U.S. sides declined to make any statement about the talks.

Some U.S. sources have stated that there is an identity of views between Egypt and the United States in relation to the Lebanese issue and the need for the withdrawal of the Israeli and foreign forces from it as soon as possible.

Shultz had earlier emphasized to U.S. journalists that the incident of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut will not deter the U.S. Administration from continuing with the peace process and giving an impetus to its Middle East initiative.

Afte the talks, Kamal Hasan 'Ali held a dinner banquet for the U.S. guest and his delegation. The banquet was attended by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; Conultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim; Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister for services and Eeucation and scientific research minister; Ahmad 'Izz ad-Din Hilal, deputy prime minister and minister of petroleum; Dr Yusuf Wali, minister of state for agriculture and food security; Minister of Planning Dr Kamal al-Janzuri; Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, minister of reconstruction and minister of state for housing and land reclamation; Dr Butrus Ghali, and the members of the Egyptian side in the talks. Shultz is scheduled to leave Cairo tomorrow morning for Israel within the framework of his current area tour.

Al-Baz Statement

NC262132 Cairo MENA in English 2105 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, April 26 (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first foreign under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, said tonight that the Lebanon issue was the main topic of discussion between the Egyptian and American sides today.

He added that the American side affirmed that the United States will intensify its efforts for a speedy solution of the Lebanon problem.

Dr al-Baz also said in his statement to the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY that the talks also dealt with the prospects of promoting the possibility of the Palestinians participating with Jordan in the peace negotiations. The two sides, he added, were in agreement that the door to Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is still open. This is clear in the positions of both parties, he said, amounting to a positive element with hope that this would crystallize into tangible progress towards peace with safeguard of Arab land and the rights of the Palestinian people.

'Ali On Shultz Visit

NC270846 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the new requirements of the situation, in addition to the framework for peace, do in fact call for the participation of Jordan and the Palestinians in the negotiations on finding a solution to the Palestinian problem.

In an interview with the weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH, published today, 'Ali noted that the topics which will be discussed with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, currently on a visit to Cairo, will be within the framework of the area's need for peace and security. He said the framework for a peace agreement is clear, and the area's need for the participation of all parties in the peace process is also clear.

'Ali affirmed that Shultz' visit to the area is within the framework of the U.S. efforts with the other parties to end the Israeli and foreign military presence in Lebanon. It is also within the framework of the intensive efforts to solve the Palestinian issue.

'Ali affirmed that until now there have been no contacts or consultations on the restoration of Egyptian-Soviet relations, especially following the change in the Soviet leadership.

'Ali said the presence of an Israeli ambassador and flag in Cairo must not irritate the Arab states, because the latter are represented in several capitals where there are Israeli embassies and flags. Egypt is in a special situation vis-a-vis the Arab states and its commitment to peace with Israel. In other words, the presence of the Israeli ambassador and the peace process are a question of time for the Arab states and a reality for Egypt.

'Ali affirmed that Egypt welcomes the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations. He said that until such time as these relations are restored with Arab consensus, as the Arab states are demanding, Egypt will favor the establishment of good bilateral relations with all the Arab countries.

Referring to the aims of his coming visits to Romania and Spain, 'Ali said: Concerning Romania, the visit will be within the framework of the constant consultations between the two countries. Concerning Spain, the visit will aim to explain Egypt's view of the peace process and Egypt's stand on the Middle East problem. The visit will also aim at cultivating bilateral relations, especially in the economic field.

'Ali recalled the days preceding the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai. He said Israel placed some obstacles to prevent the completion of the withdrawal, such as its insistence that the Palestinian autonomy talks be held in Jerusalem, based on the argument that President Anwar as-Sadat himself visited Jerusalem. Israel placed other obstacles to prevent the withdrawal, such as claiming that Egypt was violating the military part of the peace agreement, that weapons and ammunition were being smuggled to the Palestinians inside Israel via Sinai, and that there was an office for Palstinian activity in Al-'Arish, in addition to the most complex problem, namely the demarcation of the borders.

Concluding his statement,'Ali said Egyptian-Israeli relations are now in a stage of frustration and tepidness because of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Sabra and Shatila massacres, and the air bombardment of West Beirut.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Praises Shultz Statement on Tour

NC270655 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 27 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial today, AL-JUMHURIYAH highlights President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's statement that U.S. President Reagan's plan is a golden opportunity to establish peace in the Middle East. The newspaper expresses the belief that this statement is in line with Egypt's view that peace in the area is indivisible and that the withdrawal of the Israeli forces [from Lebanon] is a first step toward peace. If this step is achieved, U.S. credibility will be strengthened and the moderate Arab states will be able to trust U.S. promises and assurances and to act toward solving the more serious part of the Middle East crisis — the part pertaining to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and to the establishment of a Palestinian entity.

AL-JUMHURIYAH explains that whether the destruction of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut prompted U.S. Secretary of State Shultz to embark on his current tour of the area or whether this tour is a new initiative indicating a greater U.S. understanding of Lebanon's and the area's problems, Shultz' statement yesterday that he will stay in the area as long he feels it will be possible to reach an agreement on the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon indicates a greater U.S. interest in the safety of the area, which we want to be independent.

'Ali Leaves for Bucharest With Message

NC270824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 27 Apr (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali left Cairo for Bucharest this morning with a message from President Husni Mubarak for Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

During his 4-day visit to Romania, 'Ali will also hold talks with the Romanian foreign minister on important international topics, especially the Middle East problem, and on means for strengthening relations between the two countries.

U.S. Military Delegation Arrives for Talks

NC261908 Cairo MENA in English 1823 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 April (MENA) — Negotiations on promoting military relations between Egypt and the United States opened here today between Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces Lt Gen 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz and American Chairman of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff General John Vessey.

Defence Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah is to receive General Vessey and his accompanying delegation tomorrow morning at the Defence Ministry.

The American military delegation arrived here today for a three-day visit within a tour of the Middle East countries.

Commentary Calls for Expanding Shultz Mission

NC261642 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Ahmad Sha'ban commentary: "The Solution of the Lebanese Problem Can Prepare a Suitable Way for Peace"]

[Text] With the start of a new stage in the U.S. efforts in the Middle East, the U.S. secretary of state is beginning his Middle East tour with a meeting with President Husni Mubarak to affirm to him the U.S. determination to support peace in the Middle East.

Reports have said the U.S. secretary of state will devote his efforts to the solution of the Lebanese problem. We believe the U.S. efforts should not stop at the bounds of the Lebanese crisis. It must expand to include the arrival at a negotiating formula for the problem of the whole area, especially regarding the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and opening the door before the basic parties in the Middle East conflict to work for achieving peace.

While the Lebanese problem is not the source of the Middle East problem but was incidental, caused by the Israeli invasion, it has become, through Israeli actions, a basic hinge in the problem. If sincere efforts are exerted to solve it, it could constitute the starting point for the solution of the crux of the problem, which is the Palestinian problem and the Palestinian people's rights.

However, Israel, which is used to exploiting any activity in the area for its own benefit, has hastened, in the weekly Cabinet meeting on Sunday, to discuss a proposal for partial withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. It did this on the eve of George Shultz' arrival in the area in an attempt to limit Shultz' mission to this part of the problem and, at the same time, to appear as the party ready for a solution while the other side is hampering it, especially after Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has affirmed that Lebanon is not prepared to sign an agreement with Israel allowing the presence of Israeli forces in southern Lebanon. Israel's aim is basically to prompt the U.S. secretary of stateto exert pressure on Lebanon to fulfil some of Israel's demands,which affect Lebanon's sovereignty over its territory. But what is required today is to convince Israel of the need for complete withdrawal from Lebanon as a first step to be accompanied by another step, which is an absolute halt to the establishment of Israeli settlements in the West Bank. This is a role which Egyptand many Arabs hope the United States will play, especially since U.S. signals have recently appeared which must not be ignored and should be exploited. We sum up these signals as follows:

First, U.S President Reagan's message to Syria on the anniversary of its national day, in which the U.S. President affirmed that he intends to expand his initiative on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the Syrian information media's highlighting of this message.

Second, the United States' affirmation that it will continue its efforts to establish peace in the Middle East despite the explosion incident at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut and its effects.

Third, the dispatch of U.S. Secretary Shultz as President Reagan's envoy to the area to play an effective role to bring about the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon and to reach a solution to this problem, after the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations on this problem have almost reached a deadlock and after the number of rounds in these negotiations has so far reached 33 without any agreement being reached.

Hence, we welcome Shultz' visit, and call on those who are interested in peace in the area to exploit this visit for the benefit of the Arab cause and not to waste time, because the only side that benefits from the waste of time is Israel.

BRIEFS

PROTOCOL WITH FRG — Egypt and the FRG today signed in Bonn a protocol for financial cooperation between the two countries for 1983 under which the Bonn Government will provide financial aid estimated at DM 250 million to Egypt to be used in financing a number of Egyptian development projects. The money will be repaid over a period of 50 years, with a 10-year grace period, at an annual interest rate of less than 1 percent. The protocol was signed for Egypt by Minister for International Investment and Cooperation Dr Wajih Shindi and for the FRG by Economic Cooperation Minister Jurgen Warnke. It should be recalled that Egypt is considered the largest recipient of FRG foreign aid after India. [Text][Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Apr 83 NC]

Jordan's Abu 'Awdah Arrives With Message

JN261131 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Apr (INA) — 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Jordanian information minister and King Husayn's envoy to President Saddam Husayn, arrived here today with an oral message.

INA has learned that the message deals with bilateral relations and developments in the Arab region.

Communique Reports 25-26 April War Operations

JN261614 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,073 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 26 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With high morale and renewed fighting spirit, the victorious Iraqi armies are continuing their brave operations against the forces of the evil Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. An enemy concentration was spotted in front of our forward positions east of Basra. Our forces attacked it, killing three and destroying one tank.

2. An Iranian military man sought refugee with our forces in the northern sector of the front, escaping the inferno of Khomeyni and his tyrannical regime. He was safely transferred to the rear lines of our forces.

3. One was killed and one observation post destroyed, killing those manning it, in front of our forward positions in the Maysan sector.

4. One vehicle, two infantry positions, and one hardware stockpilewere destroyed in the central sector of the front.

5. Today, the spiteful Iranian regime's artillery shelled Basra and Mandali and their environs, damaging civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 April 1983

LE MONDE: Iraq Backing Abu Nidal Against 'Arafat

PM261017 Paris LE MONDE in French 26 Apr 83 p 6

[Jean Gueyras report: "Abu Nidal, Iraq, and the PLO"]

[Text] "We are not the allies or protectors of Abu Nidal, to whom we have granted asylum. We could not expel a homeless Palestinian who would not know where to go, any more than any Arab country could. It would be inhuman of us."

It was in those terms that Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and ideologue of the Baghdad regime, justified in our columns (LE MONDE 8 January) the aid given by the Iraqi Government to Abu Nidal, the Palestinian dissident sentenced to death by the PLO, adding that Baghdad was trying to "play down and reduce the disargeements" between Abu Nidal and Yasir 'Arafat.

Since those soothing statements, there has been the murder of Isam as-Sartawi, one of Mr 'Arafat's main advisers, for which the Syrian office of Abu Nidal's organization in Damascus claimed responsibility. Thus, for a moment, there was reason to think that the crime was an initiative by the Damascus office of Abu Nidal's Fatah Revolutionary Council and that Abu Nidal had in fact been reduced to the role of a Palestinian refugee in Baghdad to whom asylum had been given "for humanitarian reasons."

The strange interview, which the leadership of the Fatah movement — Revolutionary Council — has just granted to a group of French journalists, in the form of written replies, indicates that this is not the case and that Abu Nidal is not only politically active in Baghdad, but also has the full support of the Iraqi Government — without whose permission an interview of this type is not even conceivable in Iraq.

Thus, Baghdad seems to approve of the veritable call for war against the PLO and its leader, Yasir 'Arafat, launched by Abu Nidal who, in his written replies to the French journalists, supports the murder of Isam as-Sartawi, condemns the behavior of Mr 'Arafat, who is regarded as "a traitor and a capitulator," and offers himself...as an interlocutor for the French Government to discuss the problems of terrorism and peace in the Middle East while asserting that he will not attack French interests in France or elsewhere.

Baghdad's attitude seems particularly strange since the Iraqi leaders have recently stated several times that their country is not opposed to negotiations among Israel, the PLO, and the Arab countries. President Saddam Husayn even admitted during a conversation with a U.S. congressman "the Jewish state's need for security," adding that "no Arab leader is currently pursuing a policy aimed at the destruction of Israel or its disappearance." Has Mr Saddam Husayn since changed his opinion?

BRIEFS

OUTGOING SPANISH AMBASSADOR — Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Spanish Ambassador Jose Luis de la Guardia Maestro, who will end his term of office in Baghdad soon. They reviewed the good and cordial relations between the two countries and means of promoting them. [Text] [Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 83 JN]

AR-RA'Y Comments on Shultz' Mideast Priorities
JN261008 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Shultz Between Real and Bogus Priorities," the newspaper AR-RA'Y says: George Shultz' arrival in Cairo yesterday crystalized the priorities drawn up for his mission to the region to secure an agreement for the withdrawal of Israeli and non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. Such an agreement is considered the first step toward achieving peace. In his first statement in the Egyptian capital, Shultz said that he would remain in the region as long as there is a chance for reaching that agreement. In return, the Israeli defense minister has drawn up other priorities for George Shultz' mission. He said that the increase of Syrian military power would be the main topic to be discussed with Shultz. At the same time, Israeli sources are talking about PLO representation as a priority topic even if Shultz works out an agreement on the withdrawal of non-Lebanese troops from Lebanon.

AR-RA'Y adds: Thus it is obvious that Israel is deliberately mixing priorities to undermine the two basic elements in Shultz' mission: achieving withdrawal from Lebanon and discussing the future of the West Bank and Gaza in light of Reagan's initiative. Needless to say, what worries Israel most is, if George Shultz were able to solve the Lebanese problem, the future of the occupied Palestinian land would be raised. Therefore, Israeli circles have begun to raise the question of PLO representation in order to avoid any discussion of the land issue.

We should recall that the question of PLO representation does not constitute an obstacle to peace in the region, although the U.S. Administration does not recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people as the Arabs have already done. The real obstacle to peace is the Israeli settlement policy in the occupied Palestinian land, a fact that will undermine Reagan's peace plan. At the same time, it is considered a direct challenge to U.S. initiative and credibility, which are aimed at achieving a just, comprehensive, and real peace in the region.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The removal of this obstacle should be the top priority if Shultz succeeds in achieving withdrawal from Lebanon. The formula through which the Arabs will participate in activating the peace process as soon as U.S. credibility and ability are asserted depends on the owners of the cause, and the PLO will not allow Israel to fabricate an issue to prevent the rescue of the land and kinfolk, which is more important than all means and formulas. Shultz should adhere to the basic and clear priorities to provide no chance for fabricating bogus priorities, which might hamper his mission or divert it from its goals.

TIMES: Arabs Want 'More Solid Initiative' From U.S.
JN260926 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Apr 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Boats, Trains and Flat Tyres"]

[Text] United States Secretary of State George Shultz has started his current Mideast trip by stating in a press interview in Washington that he discerns an Arab sentiment to re-examine the Reagan initiative for an Arab-Israeli peace. In this, he is more or less correct. The Reagan initiative is probably the best thing to come out of Washington for many years, but remains flawed in one or two important aspects. Mr. Shultz is correct to assume that the Arabs want to keep talking peace with the United States, because A) the Arabs have no other option, and B) the United States is the party that has to bear much responsibility for the action of its surrogate Israel. But Mr. Shultz should be more subtle. To wish to deal with the United States does not mean that the Arabs, helpless and hopeless as they may appear at the moment, will accept any line that Washington throws out. It has been a central plank in Washington's policy in the past seven months that Jordan would join the Reagan initiative because, in Washington's view, Jordan has little choice, and the alternatives to cowtowing to the Americans are bleak. Once again, the United States leadership has, as George Shultz likes to say, missed the boat.

Mr. Shultz says, however, that the Arabs have missed the boat (the metaphors change with the seasons in Washington, you have understand; last September, Mr. Shultz talked of the Arabs missing the train, but with the arrival of Spring, boats are the things that one misses). He says we have to reconsider the Reagan initiative, throw the PLO out the window and jump into America's lap. We suspect that Mr. Shultz will be singing a different tune when he finishes his trip next week. He should realise by then that a more solid American initiative that pays more attention to the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people would be welcomed by the Arab World. He should also seek a little more balance in his position by remembering that Israel rejected the Reagan initiative out of hand when it was first launched, while the Arabs gave it long and hard thought. Yes, the Arabs want to reconsider the Reagan initiative. More important, do the Americans plan to reconsider it themselves and improve upon it, instead of pumping more hot air into a flat tyre that they are trying to resell? Mr. Shultz should give us something solid to reconsider.

Chairman of U.S. JCS Ends Visit, Departs
JN261848 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] General John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff [JCS], and his delegation left Amman this morning following a visit of several days to Jordan. While here Gen Vessey met with His Majesty King Husayn, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and Staff Lieutenant General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. The guest and his delegation were send off by the Army commander in chief and the chief of staff.

Foreign Minister Returns From Saudi, Yemen Visits

JN261624 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim returned home today following a visit to Saudi Arabia during which he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Earlier, the foreign minister visited the YAR and the PDRY and conveyed similar messages from his majesty the king to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

President Says Army Will Guarantee Security

NC261534 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil today stressed that the Lebanese Army alone is responsible for guaranteeing security in the south and elsewhere and that the Army will be able to shoulder this responsibility as a result of the support it is receiving from all citizens.

President al-Jumayyil made this assertion at the meeting of the political committee of the higher liaison body which he chaired at noon today. The meeting was attended by the Ambassadors of France, Italy, and Britain and a representative of U.S. Ambassador in Beirut Robert Dillon, who is in Cairo. It was also attended by the commanders of the contingents with the multinational force and Lebanese officers.

Further on President's Remarks

NC261749 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpts] President Amin al-Jumayyil today stressed that the Lebanese Army alone is responsible for guaranteeing security in the south and elsewhere and that the Army will be able to shoulder this responsibility as a result of the support it is receiving from all citizens. President al-Jumayyil made this assertion at the meeting of the higher liaison body's political committee which he chaired at noon today.

President al-Jumayyil asserted that Lebanon is prepared to go all the way for the sake of a real peace in the area and that the Lebanese Army is working sincerely, faithfully, and resolutely to achieve peace within the frameowrk of honor and dignity. He said the desire to achieve a real peace and the practical outlook to things prompt Lebanon to insist on the security arrangements which it itself proposes, disregarding the security proposals made by others.

The president then referred to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' tour of the area, his visit to Lebanon and Lebanon's hope that Secretary Shultz' efforts will solve some of the problems pertaining to the negotiations and will enable the reaching of final solutions to the Lebanese-Israeli differences on strong bases guaranteeing Lebanon's full sovereignty and national unity and its Army's effectiveness and morale and guaranteeing the possible limit of security for Israel.

President al-Jumayyil expressed his deep sorrow and pain for the martyrs who fell in the field of honor as a result of the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut because they were in an advance front of the struggle for the principles and values for which Lebanon is fighting. He said: In this framework, the efforts of the multinational force and the states participating in it are not being exerted only for the sake of Lebanon and its people but also for the sake of the principles and values which Lebanon symbolizes in its struggle for peace, freedom and democracy.

Al-Jumayyil Chairs Political Staff Meeting

NC262046 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil tonight chaired a part of the meeting of the political operations staff. The meeting was held at the Presidential Palace and it was attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Wadi' Haddad, Ghassan Tuwayni and the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations led by Dr Antoine Fattal.

An appraisal was made during the meeting of yesterday's round of negotiations and a file was prepared of the Lebanese-U.S. discussions that will be held with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The discussions at the first part of the meeting centered on technical and economic aspects and the extent of the effect of opening the border with Israel on the economy and trade exchange. Economic experts were told of the broad lines of the intended policy and on whose basis the experts will complete the preparation of their files related to the discussion of economic issues 6 months after the completion of the withdrawals.

Following this, there was a detailed review of the basic points of difference with Israel and of the less important pending points. The proposals Secretary Shultz might present during his discussions with the Lebanese officials on Thursday and the Lebanese answers to them were discussed so the Lebanese positions may be clear and coordinated.

U.S. Secretary Shultz will hold all his meetings at the Presidential Palace. Contacts between the Lebanese and U.S. officials will be intensified today and tomorrow to crystallize some of the terms in the proposed provisions, which the U.S. side is working on.

Lebanese officials are holding contacts with some Arab states concerned with the Lebanese issue to clearly explain the Lebanese stand in detail. These contacts will continue to brief these states on developments.

Chamber of Deputies Holds Closed Session 26 Apr

NC261240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] At the suggestion of several deputies, the Chamber of Deputies' session was turned into a closed meeting at 1230 today. The session began at 1130 to discuss the progress of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations.

Speaker al-As'ad said that the session is devoted to discussing all important subjects. The session was made secret because of the seriousness of the subjects to be discussed.

Speaker al-As'ad chaired the meeting which was attended by 64 deputies. The government was represented by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and all the ministers with the exception of [Oil and Industry Minister] George Afram.

The meeting began with 1-minute silence in mourning of the late former Deputy Yusuf Daw'. The bills before the chamber and the agenda relating to the progress of the negotiations and the current situation in the country were then read.

Speaker al-As'ad said that several deputies requested that the session be closed because of the seriousness of the subjects to be debated. The deputies held a public debate for some time on whether the current session should be secret or open.

After a debate in which several deputies took part, Speaker al-As'ad proposed making the session secret by voting. Thirty-three deputies were in favor of the proposal, 24 against. Speaker al-As'ad then declared the session secret and asked reporters to leave the hall. The session is still in progress.

On leaving the hall, [former] President Camille Sham'un was asked about his views on the government's statement. He replied that it was clear. Answering a question, he said: I will reply to this after Shultz arrives and begins his contacts.

Asked about extending extending the term of the Chamber of Deputies, he said that there will be no violation of the Constitution. Sham'un said that he sided with the public session.

Partial Israeli Pullout Discussed

NC261514 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The new U.S. proposals, the progress of the tripartite negotiations on the withdrawals from Lebanon, and the Lebanese stand on developments were the prominent topics discussed at the Chamber of Deputies plenary session today.

Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad chaired the session. The government was represented by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers. There were heated discussions among the deputies regarding the government's policy. The session was made closed at noon after reporters were expelled from the meeting hall.

Informed sources have disclosed that the chamber discussed in detail the question of the negotiations with the object of reaching a joint decision on the possible agreement. It has been learned from the same sources that the chamber gave particular attention in its discussions to recent Israeli insinuations about the occupation authorities' intention to implement partial withdrawals from Lebanon. The sources emphasized that Lebanon has been officially notified about this and that it was given a few days to answer the enemy's conditions or else Israel will implement a withdrawal in two stages. The first will be a withdrawal up to Ad-Damur and the second will be a withdrawal that will not go beyond the Al-Awwali bridge, north of Sidon. The sources expressed the fear that the enemy might implement his plan in light of the obstruction of the negotiations and the insistence of the Israeli side on its special demands regarding the security of the south. The sources emphasized that Lebanon is insistently waiting for the arrival of Shultz in Beirut to act to preventing Israel from implementing its plan, which aims at consolidating the occupation of the south.

Al-Wazzan, Al-As'ad Statements

NC261855 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The Chamber of Deputies session, which was a closed session, was adjourned at 1410 this afternoon and it will be resumed tomorrow morning.

Following the session, reporters tried to obtain some information from the Chamber of Deputies speaker about the session. Speaker al-As'ad answered them saying:

[Begin recording] The discussions at the session dealt with [words indistinct] foreign and the current events and negotiations. The session was adjourned until tomorrow. The session was secret. A decision might be adopted tomorrow waiving the secrecy character. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Your Excellency the Speaker: The difficulties facing the negotiations and [words indistinct] the foreign minister?

[Answer] Regarding the progress of the discussions, I can say absolutely nothing.

[Question] We would like to know Your Excellency's opinion.

[Answer] Let my opinion be isolated from the discussions at the session. Let me express it on another occasion. [end recording]

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan expressed his satisfaction with the atmosphere the discussions were held in. He said:

[Begin recording] Today's session was very essential. The stage through which we are passing in the negotiations and the current situation in the country behoove us to appear before the Chamber of Deputies, which is the people's representative and source of power, to brief it on everything we have and place before it all obstacles confronting us to study together the best ways for continuing our work to save Lebanon.

The discussions showed a high level of responsibility. We were satisfied with the understanding exhibited of the Lebanese negotiator's position. We sensed full support for the line or the principles we are following and full support for the position which his excellency the president explained to the press syndicate. I consider this stand to express our policy in general and on this issue [the negotiations] in particular. I apologize for not saying more because I prefer that the details should come from the Chamber of Deputies represented by Speaker al-As'ad. [end recording]

MENA Reports Salim Speech

NC271145 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1018 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Beirut, 27 Apr (MENA) — Lebanese parliamentary sources have stated that at yesterday's secret session of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim spoke about the obstacles being put up by Israel in the way of the tripartite negotiations on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

These sources noted that Salim defined these obstacles in nine points, foremost of which is Israel's demand that Major Sa'd Haddad be appointed the higher commander of the security zone stretching from the common Lebanese-Israeli border to the Al-Awwali River near Sidon in southern Lebanon and to the south of Al-Baruk mountain in Mount Lebanon.

According to the Lebanese sources, Elie Salim said that Israel is demanding that the appointment of all Lebanese officers in the security zone be subject to its approval, that it have liaison officers with the Lebanese Army in the security zone, that it carry out patrols day and night and that it have the right to detain persons similar to the Lebanese authorities' right. Israel is also demanding that it conduct joint patrols with the Lebanese Army.

According to the sources, Elie Salim also explained that Israel is demanding the establishment of between three and five radar surveillance stations in the security zone and that it have the right of land, sea, and air pursuit of persons, ships, and aircraft inside Lebanese territory, Lebanese territorial waters, and Lebanese airspace. Israel also rejects the presence of UN emergency forces in southern Lebanon, but may accept a small observer force in the town of Sidon alone.

According to the Lebanese parliamentary sources, Elie Salim said that Israel is insisting on mutual recognition between it and Lebanon and on the establishment of clear economic relations with it.

The sources said the Lebanese foreign minister described the meetings of the tripartite negotiations as being no longer useful and that Lebanon needs American pressure on Israel. He also said that Lebanon has agreed on the location of the security zone in which it will station 8,000 Lebanese soldiers, provided that there be no Israeli military presence there.

According to the sources, Elie Salim affirmed that Lebanon has agreed to the formation of a tripartite Lebanese-U.S.-Israeli committee to supervise the agreement and to the formation of subcommittees.

Lebanon has also agreed to end the state of war and to stop the propaganda campaigns, but it cannot agree to the other Israeli demands.

Commenting on Salim's speech at the secret session of the Chamber of Deputies, Lebanese parliamentary sources said that these Israeli demands mean the abolition of Lebanon, constitute a form of colonialism, and are more than the [French] mandate used to ask.

Salim, Soviet Envoy Exchange Views 27 April

NC270917 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Minister Dr Elie Salim has held consultations with Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov over the latest developments in the situation in Lebanon and the Lebanese stance regarding the negotiations with Israel.

At 0900 today the foreign minister received the Soviet ambassador in the presence of head of the Political Affairs Department Ambassador Khalil Makkawi. The meeting, which was at Minister Salim's invitation, lasted 45 minutes after which Ambassador Soldatov said the foreign minister invited him to exchange information and views regarding mutual subjects.

Al-Wazzan To Visit Riyadh, Damascus for Talks

Delegation Members

NC270710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Lebanese officials are conducting contacts with some Arab countries concerned with the Lebanese question to outline the Lebanese stand. These contacts will continue to keep these states constantly informed of developments in the situation.

Within the framework of consultations with the Arab states, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan will this morning leave for Riyadh heading an official delegation to meet with Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and consult with him on the negotiations.

The delegation includes Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, Ambassador Zafir al-Hasan, Chairman of the National Council for Foreign Economic Relations Sami Marun, Director General of Protocol and Public Relations 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Shaykhah, and member of Lebanese delegation to the negotiations Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan. The delegation will leave aboard a special Middle East Airlines plane and return to Beirut this afternoon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan may later go to Damascus to meet with President al-Asad for the same purpose.

27 April Departure

NC270934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan will today meet with Saudi ruler King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for talks regarding the results of the tripartite negotiations and the Lebanese stance regarding the Israeli proposals in light of the visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who will arrive in Beirut tomorrow. Al-Wazzan left Beirut for Riyadh this morning heading an official delegation. He will return later today.

26 April Security Developments Reported

NC261337 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Israeli aircraft flew at 0800 [today] over the north and broke the sound barrier over Tripoli. Information available to the Voice of Lebanon from Sidon states that tension prevails in the city following the deployment of the national guard in the streets. The information adds that this tension is due to the fact that the person in charge of this guard is a former Palestinian official called Abu 'Aridah.

This morning, Major Sa'd Hadad's forces erected barricades in the areas of (Kifri), Humin, 'Anqun, and Al-Qurayyah. These forces were reinforced with tanks and military armored vehicles.

The security forces today arrested in Burj al-Barajinah Palestinian Mahmud 'Abd al-'Al al-Husayn, 'Abdallah Mahmud Ayyub, and 'Imad Qunays on the charge of having formed a gang for committing car bombings and of having established suspicious relations with organizations to carry out terrorist operations for them. False documents and handgrenades have been confiscated from the detainees.

An explosive device went off in the shop of Antoine George Wakid in Harat Hurayk and caused material damage.

Israeli forces raided several houses in Barjah, Ash-Shuf, and arrested a man named Karam 'Ali Damash. In the northern township of Al-Minyah, armed men blocked off a road to protest failure to build it. When a Syrian military truck tried to pass on this road, an argument ensued and resulted in an exchange of gunfire in which one Syrian soldier was wounded.

In (Wadi Khalid) in 'Akkar, Nasrat Khalid al-'Ali was found dead from unclear circumstances. In another development, Lebanese Army forces this morning ran foot patrols in the Ra's Bayrut area, including Al-Hamra' and Ar-Rawshah. These forces carried out a close inspection of vehicles in general.

It was noticed today that the multinational forces took stringent security measures around foreign and Arab embassies and in the areas in which the international forces are stationed.

Information available to the Voice of Lebanon says that the Palestinians have placed their Israeli prisoners in detention camps scattered over the Al-Biqa' area. At this point we mention that Israel is demanding the release of 8 of its imprisoned soldiers, while the Palestinian side says that the Palestinians are holding 19 Israeli prisoners.

VOAL Says Clash Aims at Foiling Shultz Visit

NC261506 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Has the Israeli enemy started escalating the military situation in the Al-Biqa' upon Shultz' arrival in the area in an attempt at blackmailing and obstructing the U.S. efforts aimed at the realization of the withdrawals from Lebanon? Observers interpret the Israeli aggression against the Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' at noon today and at the moment when the U.S. secretary of state began his talks in Cairo as an Israeli attempt to upset the U.S. secretary's efforts and lay new obstacles precluding the success of his mission.

The clash today has aroused fears about a total explosion of the military situation in the Al-Biqa', in light of the major Israeli military preparations in the tense area for several days.

New Syrian Positions, Iranians in Al-Biqa'

NC270700 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] In Al-Biqa', the Syrian forces have established new positions for heavy tanks and emplacements for 130-mm and 132-mm guns on the frontlines facing the Israelis all along the 'Ammiq-Qabb Ilyas-Kamid al-Lawz line as well as on the Al-Biqa' plain and in Hawsh Hala, Hawsh az-Zara'inah, and their vicinities.

Reports from Al-Biqa' had earlier indicated that the Iranians are preparing for an enlistment campaign in their ranks after reinforcing their forces with 1,500 volunteers who arrived in Al-Biqa' recently.

Syrians Fire on Israelis in Al-Biqa' 27 April

NC271224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] On the security level, AFP reported this morning that 1020 two unidentified military planes flew over Al-Biqa' causing a big boom.

A Syrian military spokesman later said that at noon today the Israeli forces made provocative attempts in the buffer zone opposite the As-Su'luk Barracks [thuknat] in Al-Biqa' with the aim of building fortifications. The Syrian forces opened fire, forcing them to withdraw, according to the spokesman. It is recalled that the Syrian forces yesterday opened fire on an Israeli military vehicle in the same area.

Syrian War Buildup, Libyan Fighters Reported

JN271240 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Correspondents in Shtawrah today reported increasing tension in the Al-Biqa' area of Lebanon. They added that the inhabitants of the villages close to the frontline between the Israelis and the Syrians have begun to leave the area.

People arriving from Damascus said that Libyan forces supplied with modern weapons are stationed near the Syrian-Lebanese borders, but were not identified as regular forces or volunteers.

During the past few weeks, the Syrian forces have fortified their positions, particularly those on the heights overlooking the frontline. They have also reinforced their antitank defenses.

Observers indicated Syrian troop concentrations equipped with long-range, antitank artillery on the second defese line northward.

Army Maneuvers To Begin in Beirut 27 April
NC262147 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] As of tomorrow morning and for 4 days running, the Lebanese Army will carry out maneuvers with live ammunition in the capital's commercial area. The Army has asked the citizens not to approach the area. Lebanese warplanes will resume their training flights over the capital and its environs tomorrow.

Economic Agreement Signed With Romania 26 April
NC261251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] An economic agreement was signed today between Lebanon and Romania aimed at increasing trade exchange enabling Lebanon to export agricultural produce in return for Romanian industrial goods.

The agreement was signed for Lebanon by Sami Marun, head of the National Council for Foreign Economic Relations, and for Romania by Gheorghe Cazan, Romanian [first deputy] minister of state for foreign trade, who is currently visiting Lebanon.

The agreement allows Lebanon to export $7 million worth of agricultural and industrial produce in return for Romanian industrial products.

New Ambassador Leaves for Washington
NC261423 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The new Lebanese ambassador to the United States, Dr 'Abdallah Abu Habib, left for Washington today. Before leaving the airport, the ambassador said that he carries two messages from the President of the Republic to the U.S. authorities and the Lebanese expatriates.

Syrian Forces Open Fire on Israeli Vehicles 27 Apr

JN271122 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] A military spokesman has made the following statement:

At 1130 today, 27 April, the Israeli enemy repeated its provocative attempts. Two bulldozers, protected by two armored personnel carriers, advanced 400 meters into the buffer zone in front of the Tallat as-Sa'luk in Al-Biqa' with the aim of erecting fortifications.

Our forces opened fire on the enemy vehicles and forced them to withdraw.

Radio on Israeli Movements

JN270631 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Reports received from Beirut said that columns of Israeli tanks, armored vehicles, self-propelled guns, and troops are moving in an endless line via Sidon to the Ash-Shuf mountain area. These reports emphasized that the Zionist enemy is also transporting its units by air to a military airfield the Zionist occupiers had earlier built in the Ad-Damur area.

TASS said that Israeli preparations to deal a direct blow to Syria have entered their final stage.

Daily on 26 April Clash

JN270758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 27 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In the "AL-BA'TH Opinion" corner, the newspaper AL-BA'TH has linked the provocative Zionist actions against Syria to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' tour of the region. The paper says: News agencies report that Israel's military preparations to launch aggression against Syria have been completed. Israel's escalation of its military provocations yesterday was not haphazard, but was part of a plan that had been carefully prepared after a series of meetings between U.S. and Israeli militarists. It is also noted that Israel's escalation of its military provocations against Syria was carried out after the United States had concentrated its forces in the Mediterranean, as Washington announced a few days ago. This escalation also coincides with George Shultz' tour of the region.

AL-BA'TH adds: The Israeli military escalation against our forces in the Al-Biqa' also coincides with the Reagan administration's political escalation. White House officials began talking about the need for peace in the region although we believe such talk means nothing and is made by White House officials every time they want to change the existing situation in the region in service of their objectives and Israel's desire for expandsion at the expense of the Arabs. Regardless of all justifications, Shultz' arrival in the region, after a series of threats by U.S. officials against Arab forces rejecting the capitulatory plans, cannot be separated from what is going on in the region, especially Israel's preparations for changing the existing situation in service of the joint U.S.-Israeli designs.

It seems that Israel began to carry out the threats, which Shultz is carrying with him, for those who reject the capitulatory plans, particularly Syria. It is obvious that George Shultz' tour is no less dangerous to the future of the region than those of his predecessors, Kissinger and Haig. We in Syria, where we assume the biggest burden in confronting the aggressive designs aimed at harming the Arab nation, would like to reaffirm that dealing with Shultz' tour should be based on the fact that the U.S. Administration acts against Arab causes. Shultz himself confirmed this fact with the announcement at the beginning of his tour. He said that the Reagan administration is seeking an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in return for security arrangements in the interest of Israel. It has become clear during the last 2 days that Washington is seeking an Israeli-Egyptian type solution to Lebanon, and to make King Husayn join negotiations with Israel without the PLO. George Shultz also called on all Arabs to withdraw their recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

AL-BA'TH concludes: The main objective of Shultz' tour lies in taming those who reject the capitulatory plans and act to restore all the usurped Arab rights. Thus, Israel's provocations against our forces in the Al-Biqa' yesterday might be the beginning of a large-scale aggression against Syria in a final attempt to achieve the objectives that Washington and Tel Aviv failed to achieve through the invasion of Lebanon. However, Syria, which gains its strength through its Arab masses and friendly relations with the world liberation forces, particularly the Soviet Union, will not allow the conspirators to achieve their goals, regardless of all sacrifices and circumstances.

AL-BA'TH Welcomes Soviet 'Warning' to U.S.

PM261210 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 19 Apr 83 p 2

[Jibarah al-Barghuti "With the Events" column: "Why the Soviet Warning to the U.S. Administration?"]

[Text] The world is in a state of turbulence and mankind is in danger. The source of anxiety is one — the United States. In the Caribbean and Central America, there are dictatorships and popular revolutions resisting them. In the Middle East, Israel is flouting UN principles, violating human rights, and receiving U.S. aid. In southern Africa, there are racist and dictatorial regimes that receive guidance from the White House. Now Indochina is in a disturbed state and bloodletting is increasing because the United States likes to dance only in pools of blood.

The U.S. danger has not halted. The arms race Reagan is pursuing, the insistence on deploying nuclear destruction missiles in West Europe, and the exhaustion of the Third World countries' economies by U.S. monopolies are all signs of danger.

Now that American crimes have reached a peak in Lebanon, Assam, Kampuchea, Nicaragua, and El Salvador it is essential that U.S. force be faced by a counterforce. This is the meaning

of the recent Soviet warning to the Reagan administration and its clique of cowboys.

World peace is in danger. Why? Because the Nicaraguan people aspire to freedom, the Arabs are demanding their rights, which Israel has usurped, and the West German people, for example, want to be supplied with natural gas from Siberia.

But what has prompted the U.S. President to turn his acting scenes in Chicago and Nevada into real civil and regional wars that threaten the whole world with nuclear suicide?

World observers have their own views when answering this question. When the Arabs seek refuge in the American fire, even though they have been scorched by its flames more than anyone else, when the British people are ruled by a proud woman with an iron fist, and when European peace is at the mercy of Cruise, Pershing, and Red Eye missiles [as published] — when all this is happening, the man in the seat of power in Washington feels that he is the master of the world and can do what he likes,

In such circumstances, the world, its civilization, and its scientific achievements are bound to be in danger. The Arab area is in the center of this danger because in U.S. eyes, it is one of its most attractive and richest interests. The Arab desert sits on a sea of oil and Arab waterways are strategic, with routes to the world oceans passing through them. The Arab rulers even doubled this danger when they turned their lands over to bases for the Rapid Deployment Force, endorsed Sultan Qabus' initiative, and now accept the U.S. order to kill the PLO with their own hands and support a preemptive Israeli strike against Syria, because it rejects their pro-Americanism as a substitute for genuine Arabism.

One must ask here: Should the Arab homeland become a field for nuclear bombardment for the sake of the United States, and should American people die because of Reagan's arrogance? There is no doubt that the Soviet warning comes as confirmation that peace is more worthwhile and that strength is the strength of right against wrong.

Palestine Broadcast on Jordanian Statement

JN262046 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: In this week's issue, AT-TAL'I', the organ of the As-Sa'iqah organization and the PLO, says under the headline "How To Respect the Palestinian Decision," : We will try to discuss the stand of the Jordanian Government on the PLO's rejection of the Reagan plan. We will try to discuss this without any convulsions or preconceptions, because preconceptions and convulsions are fatal dangers to the fateful issues. Therefore, let us start this discussion in this spirit.

The Jordanian statement claimed that it respects the Palestinian decision when it says that it leaves to the PLO the opportunity of exploring the methods that will lead to regaining the Palestinian peoples' rights. Many people do not see that this stand respects the Palestinian decision. They see it as a relinquishment of reponsibility. It is meaningless to say that the Jordanian Government has offered its services and that the PNC has rejected them. This argument is groundless because the Reagan plan does not serve Palestinian rights, but seeks to liquidate them. Had the PLO wanted to liquidate its people's issue, it would have done that itself, without the need of a mediator. We are sure that President Reagan would welcome such a suicidal initiative, which the PLO will never commit. How can we respect the Palestinian decision? As for the Arab governments — we do not say states, because states are homelands and people, and the Arab people, in all their homelands, are always with the Palestinian decision — their respect for the Palestinian decision is represented by leaving this decision to the PNC without pressure or interference; and mobilizing the military, popular, and economic capabilities to support the Palestinian decision, which will be nothing but a national decision.

This mobilization is required by the Arab doctrine, which states that the liberation of Palestine is the objective of every Arab citizen. This applies to the Arab governments in general, but for Egypt and Jordan, it is of special importance. It calls for the commitment of Egypt and Jordan more than any other Arab country, because the West Bank, constitutionally and legally, was part of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan until the 1967 aggression. We do not want to discuss the circumstances that created this situation; it is enough to recall that the West Bank was part of Jordan. Nationally, practically, and morally, even if not constitutionally, the Gaza Strip was a part of Egypt, because the Arab League authorized the Egyptian state to rule the Gaza Strip on behalf of the Arab nations until Palestinian rights are regained. In other words, the legal responsibility of defending the Gaza Strip and the West Bank goes far beyond the responsibility of any other Arab country by virtue of this situation. Since the West Bank was occupied by Israel during Jordanian rule, and the Gaza Strip was occupied during Egyptian rule, then this doubles the Jordanian and Egyptian states' responsibility in helping the Palestinian Arab people and the PLO to regain Palestinian national rights. Instead of doing so, the Egyptian Government left the Palestinian people struggling alone and went to Camp David. The Jordanian Government wants to leave the Palestinian Arab people with their struggle in order to go this time — and we hope we are wrong — to camp Reagan.

Thus, respect for the Palestinian decision is represented first by the acceptance of this decision, and then supporting it by all means. Unfortunately, the Jordanian Government statement does not show support for the Palestinian decision. This refutes the Jordanian Government's claim that it respects the Palestinian decision. To respect the Palestinian decision without supporting it is not respect, but relinquishment of the responsibility — relinquishment about which God says: Go thou, and thy lord, and fight ye two, while we sit here (and watch). [Koranic verse].

Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's George Hawi

JN261257 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] At 1315 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received the Lebanese Communist Party delegation led by George Hawi,

secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, and party members George al-Habr and Rafiq Samhun. Talks dealt with the situation in the region and the Lebanese arena as well as the need for directing all efforts to evacuate the Israeli occupation forces from Lebanese territory.

Hawi on Talks With Al-Asad

JN262024 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Apr (SANA) — George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, has praised his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad today. He described it as a frank and cordial meeting during which there was an agreement in views.

In a press statement, Hawi also praised Syria's steadfastness and the basic national role it assumes under President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting the conspiracy against the nationalist forces in our region.

Hawi added that the meeting with President al-Asad was an opportunity to review the most prominent international developments and the crucial stage through which the struggle in the Middle East, against the Israeli aggression and the U.S. onslaught, is passing.

Hawi said that they also reviewed the stands of the Lebanese national and progressive forces which reject harming Lebanese sovereignty and independence and any bargaining with the Israeli enemy. He added that these forces insist on the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all Lebanese territories, and reject Israel's conditions and those of their U.S. protector. He also said that that they also discussed the popular struggle against the occupation and the escalation of the heroic military operations of the Lebanese resistance.

George Hawi said: President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated Syria's support for Lebanon with all means for removing the Israeli forces of occupation from its territory without any prior conditions. George Hawi added that President al-Asad reaffirmed that Syria will continue to stand fast in the face of all pressure and blackmail, and that it is determined to pursue the struggle to foil the enemy's schemes and prevent it from fulfilling its designs.

George Hawi concluded: [Words indistinct] strengthening the nationalist Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance to confront all threats as well as strengthening the alliance with the USSR, the socialist bloc, and the forces of liberation in the world.

Party Official Receives Lebanese Party Leader

JN261842 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Apr (SANA) — Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and chairman of Foreign Relations department, received here this evening In'am Ra'd, chairman of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party. They discussed the Arab situation in general and the Lebanese events in particular.

The two sides stressed the importance of strengthening pan-Arab solidarity between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party in confronting imperialist-Zionist designs and strengthening the Lebanese national resistance in order to resume its work in bringing about the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces from Lebanon, and maintaining Lebanon's unity and independence.

The two sides also stressed that the sources of danger in the region are the United States and Israel. They also said that this danger must be confronted and repulsed in order to prevent the imposition of hegemony and control on the region.

Brother In'am Ra'd praised Syria's steadfastness and its pan-Arab role in defending the Arab nation's dignity and future.

Iranian Commerce Minister Arrives 26 April

JN261952 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1920 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Apr (SANA) — Iranian Commerce Minister Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman, arrived in Damascus this evening. He was welcomed at the airport by Dr Salim Yasin, minister of economy and foreign trade. The Iranian minister and his accompanying delegation will begin talks at the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade tomorrow morning.

Syrians Fire On IDF Tractors in Two Incidents

Cease-Fire Said Violated

TA261528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] There has been an incident between the IDF and the Syrian Army. A Syrian tank today fired a few shells toward a tractor which was at work near an IDF position in the eastern sector in Lebanon. There were no casualties and fire was not returned. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports on the incident:

[Begin Tal recording] This morning a tractor left for earth work near an IDF position. The IDF position is located west of the cease-fire line and about 2 km north of the village of 'Ammiq in the eastern sector. The Syrians fired two shells and several light arms volleys. Nobody was hurt and the IDF did not return the fire. As stated, the position is located a long way from the cease-fire line and as a result the tractor, which was at work near the position, was in the IDF-controlled area.

The Syrians claimed that the IDF'S engineering equipment was introduced about 500 meters inside the buffer zone. Well, the distance between the IDF forces and the Syrians ranges from between several hundred meters to more than 1.5 km. The two armies established their line in the area where they were on the day the cease-fire was announced, and not necessarily in the middle line. The IDF, at least, did not advance beyond the area where it stood when the cease-fire was declared. Israeli military sources say that the earth work carried out by the tractor was near the IDF position and it did not move out of the IDF-controlled area. It should be noted here that in the firing, as confessed by the Syrians, the Syrians violated the cease-fire. [end recording]

Syrian Army Announcement

TA261321 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Syria broadcast an announcement about this incident earlier, the first announcement of its kind since the cease-fire in June of last year. In the announcement by the Syrian Army spokesman in Damascus, it was said that an Israeli bulldozer, accompanied by a troop carrier, advanced half a kilometer into the buffer zone between the Israeli and Syrian forces and began building reinforcements. Fire was directed at it from the Syrian side and the Israelis withdrew. This was stated in an announcement in Damascus.

Tractor Reportedly Ignores Firing

TA261807 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The Israeli tractor that carried out earth work near an IDF position in the eastern sector in Lebanon continued the work in the afternoon despite firing from the Syrian-controlled area. The work in the area of the village of 'Ammiq was stopped only when it got dark.

Syria Reports Second Incident

TA271209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Syria has again reported an incident in the buffer zone separating its army and the IDF in the Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon. An announcement by the Syrian Army spokesman in Damascus says that two Israeli tractors accompanied by two armored personnel carriers advanced some 400 meters into the buffer zone near Tallat as-Sa'luk to build fortifications. Syrian soldiers opened fire at them, forcing them to withdraw.

Our Arab affairs correspondent, Aharon Barne'a, notes that according to Syria, the incident today occurred at the same time and place as yesterday's incident.

Foreign correspondents who toured the Al-Biqa' area have reported that they could not notice any especially large Syrian Army concentrations. They also said they could not spot any Soviet SAM-5's or SAM-6's there. They claim that these missiles are deployed inside Syria along its third defense line. However, not far from the Lebanese border, travelers who arrived from Damascus noticed that the Libyan units are equipped with modern arms. No one knows whether these are regular Libyan Army soldiers or volunteers.

IDF Reports On Syrian Activity in Al-Matn Region

TA261909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The IDF's observation posts in the Damascus-Beirut road area have not noticed any unusual Syrian Army movement in the Al-Matn area. It was nevertheless noticed that the Syrian commando units continue hectic work of entrenching, digging-in, and restoring their positions which were badly damaged during the winter.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the IDF soldiers continue with their meticulous checks of the vehicles which move from Syria to Lebanon through the checkpoints in Sawfar and Jubb Jannin. There is lively traffic through these checkpoints.

MA'ARIV on Syrian Overtures to United States

TA261341 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Apr 83 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "The Invitation From Damascus"]

[Text] The reports from Damascus that the Syrian Government is willing to discuss with the U.S. secretary of state the conditions for a Syrian military withdrawal from Lebanon — if security arrangements identical to those now being discussed with Israel are agreed upon for its border — is reminiscent of an incident that occurred at the beginning of February in the Israeli-Lebanese talks in Khaldah.

Lebanese representative Antoine Fattal then vigorously protested against Ari'el Sharon's statements that he did not care if the Syrians established warning stations in Lebanon so long as Israel was able to set up such stations in southern Lebanon. The

Lebanese representative at the Khaldah talks was hurt by these remarks by Sharon, and used very sharp language against the then defense minister for trying in fact to divide his country between Israel and Syria.

David Kimche, the Israeli representative, came to the Israeli minister's defense, saying in rejection of the personal insults: "You forget that we rescued you from occupation and despair."

Fattal said in response: It is true that we were under occupation; but we are still under occupation. True, we were in despair; but we are still in despair. And as for the insult, let us talk about that again when Minister Sharon assumes the right to propose the division of my country between Israel and Syria. I know of nothing more insulting."

That incident has been forgotten, since in the meantime the sides continued to make progress in the exhausing negotiations and are very close to agreement. However, the Syrian proposal to the U.S. secretary of state, just when the agreement with Israel can be seen on the horizon, is liable to deter the Lebanese from agreeing to security arrangements that have already been formulated in the draft of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. This is because the Lebanese view the Syrian proposal as the division of their country into spheres of influence, and they are hurt when that is discussed, just as Fattal was hurt when the proposal was raised to set up Syrian warning stations in Lebanon along with the Israeli ones.

The Syrian willingness to discuss the settlement in Lebanon with Shultz is encouraging to the Americans, since after Syria thwarted the Reagan initiative by means of the PLO, it seems in Washington as though there is a new opening for a dialogue about the Reagan plan.

In fact, the Syrians are setting a trap for the Americans. Just as the PLO could not empower Husayn to conduct peace negotiations in its name, Syria is not free to conduct talks with the United States without Soviet permission. Syria is linked to the Soviet Union by a defense and friendship pact, and the Soviets are setting a trap for the United States using Syria. When the enthusiastic Americans begin to speak publicly about the prospects for a settlement, the Soviets will bare their plot and show everyone that the United States is incapable of reaching a settlement in the Middle East without negotiating with them.

That will emerge in the course of time. However, in the meantime the Americans will tangle up all that has been achieved so far in the exhausting talks between Israel and Lebanon over the recent months.

Shultz did not rejoice at making his shuttle mission. He realizes the difficulties, and therefore he did not want to risk failure. However, on the one hand, the tension that has developed between Israel and Syria, the easing of which calls for a dramatic step, and on the other hand Philip Habib's reports about the agreement near at hand, convinced President Reagan that Shultz should immediately leave for the Middle East to achieve an Israeli-Lebanese agreement under any circumstances. That is the goal of the U.S. secretary of state's trip to Jerusalem and Beirut.

The goal is clear, but not the means of achieving it. Apart from the chorus about "pressure on Israel," the Americans do not know how to achieve the desired settlement in Lebanon. That is because the U.S. military presence in Lebanon underlies the proposed settlement, and that presence irritates the Soviets no less than the IDF's presence. And since it is loathsome to the Soviets, it may be presumed that the Syrians will also make their withdrawal from the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and Tripoli conditional on the withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon — that is, including the multinational force [MNF], which is basically a U.S.-French force. As a result, "the new ideas" being bandied about in Washington concerning joint U.S.-Lebanese forces for guarding the Lebanese-Israeli border cannot be implemented. The Syrians, under Soviet influence, will neither agree to that arrangement nor withdraw their forces from Lebanon under those terms.

The arrangement that was worked out in the Israeli-Lebanese talks about joint Israeli-Lebanese supervision teams had greater chances of acceptance. That is because it could be presented as based on the model of the armistice committees that Israel has had with its neighbors, which even Syria has agreed to in the past. However, Damascus' invitation to Shultz is liable to tangle up, and perhaps even torpedo, the arrangements that have been reached.

It is impossible to achieve a settlement in Lebanon through pressuring Israel, since even if Israel were to withdraw completely that would not constitute a settlement. And U.S. diplomacy has already learned from the Reagan plan affair that pressure on Israel is not a guarantee of the U.S. plan's success.

Actually, the Americans are at a loss and they do not know how to ensure a settlement in Lebanon. Therefore, Israel must not only say "no" to futile proposals, but must also reexamine its policy.

Perhaps it is worth reconsidering the idea of neutralizing Lebanon — that is pulling all the foreign forces out, including the MNF and UNIFIL, and making it a buffer between us and Syria, which would also allow us greater freedom of action in respect to possible provocations by the terrorist organizations.

Shultz Arrives On Mission To Aid Peace Talks

Shamir Welcomes Shultz

TA270843 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0818 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Welcome address by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at Ben-Gurion Airport on the arrival of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in English followed by Hebrew translation — live] [Text] Mr Secretary, Mrs Shultz, friends:

It is a pleasure to welcome you on your first visit to Israel as secretary of state. As an outstanding leader in your country and in the free world, your presence here demonstrates the American commitment to peace and stability in our region. In the course of our talks and contacts with you, Mr Secretary, we came to appreciate your earnest desire for a deeper understanding of our

concerns and objectives. We believe that deep understanding will serve to harmonize our relations and to advance us and our common goal to peaceful coexistence in our region.

Your visit here will no doubt contribute to the solution of the pending problems on the Lebanese issue. These problems are not easy, but the solution to them turn out to be another step in the road to peace in the Middle East. Mr Secretary, I wish you and Mrs Shultz and your colleagues a pleasant and worthwhile stay in Israel.

Cabinet Holds Consultations

TA261617 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] While George Shultz is landing at Ben-Gurion Airport, the government echelons in Jerusalem will be holding political consultations as the prime minister and his fellow Cabinet members try to outline red lines in the Israeli position and, determine the basic demands [derishot] in the negotiations with Lebanon from which Israel will not go back down.

Government sources told us that the idea that under no circumstances should Shultz leave the Middle East without an achievement is rejected. Israel, they said, will help the secretary of state reach an agreement in Lebanon to the best of its ability, but will not accept anything that infringes on its fundamental security requirements and needs, even if this means increased tension between Israel and the United States.

The timetable for the first days of Shultz' visit were concluded in Jerusalem today. The secretary will first hold a private meeting with his counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir, and later there will be working meetings in the Foreign Ministry, followed by the tour, which has become a tradition, of Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and then the president's residence. The political chapter of tomorrow's events will be concluded by a meeting with the prime minister in his office.

On Thursday morning, George Shultz will meet Menahem Begin for the second time, after which he will depart for Beirut. At the end of a day of talks there, he will return to Jerusalem to hold another series of political deliberations on Friday.

Let us point out that for the moment, it is not clear whether the U.S. secretary of state intends to pursue the shuttle diplomacy beyond this weekend, and the nature of the proposals George Shultz will be carrying with him from Washington is also unclear.

On the eve of the U.S. secretary of state's visit, Jerusalem says that it is definitely possible to reach an agreement with Lebanon, within the shortest period of time. However, some have noted that Henry Kissinger, who at the time pledged to remain in the Middle East until an agreement was reached, was forced to shuttle between the regional capitals for over 1 month.

Shultz, Shamir Begin Meetings

TA271124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Report from the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer —] [Text] The first working meeting between the ministers of foreign affairs of Israel and the United States began here in the Foreign Ministry a few minutes ago, together with the Lebanon negotiations teams. Secretary Shultz, accompanied by a large party including mediator Philip Habib, Morris Draper, Nicholas Veliotes, Charlie Hill, and legal advisers, are meeting with their counterparts: Yitzhaq Shamir and his deputy, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, Major General Avraham Tamir, Hanan Bar-On, Elyaqim Rubinstein, Minister Binyamin Netanyahu (who came from Washington specially to participate in the talks), and the director of the North American Division, Eytan Bentzur.

The remaining disputed issues in the negotiations with Lebanon will be discussed in this meeting. Prior to that, Shultz conferred with Yitzhaq Shamir for a meeting that lasted approximately 1 hour. That was a closed meeting to discuss topical issues on the two countries' agendas. Shultz' arrival was preceded by ministerial consultations held by the prime minister this morning, in which no decisions were made regarding the final image of the arrangements in Lebanon.

Shultz will make an effort to bring about the conclusion of the negotiations with Lebanon. If he deals with that alone, political observers predict, he may succeed. However, he came to the region in order to deal with another issue: To promote the peace process in accordance with President Reagan's plan. Even the most optimistic of observers are skeptical whether he will leave the region with any achievement at all.

We have two other news reports: It has already become known that Secretary Shultz will visit Damascus at least once, as the Syrians have invited him. There he will be able for the first time to observe the Syrians' real intentions both in connection with their desire or absence thereof to leave Lebanon, and the conditions for that; and in terms of comprehending the implication of the Syrian movement of forces opposite the IDF.

This afternoon Secretary Shultz will hold his first meeting with the prime minister, and we anticipate important developments there, too. Secretary Shultz will deliver to the prime minister a message he brought from the U.S. President.

Shultz To Meet Navon

TA261153 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1030 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] President Yitzhaq Navon will also meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Our correspondent Yinon Shenqar adds that the president will receive Shultz at the presidential residence in the afternoon, after Shultz's second meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Shultz, Habib Ask Labor Support

TA261055 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpts] Philip Habib has asked the Labor Party leadership for support in his initiative to neutralize Major Sa'd Haddad in southern Lebanon and to cancel his special status. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will meet on Friday with the heads of the Labor Party.

Philip Habib made his proposal at a meeting he had last week with Labor Party chairman, MK Shim'on Peres, and with MK'S Yitzhaq Rabin, Hayim Bar-Lev, and Simha Dinitz. But the Labor leaders are not prepared to lend their hand to an initiative prejudical to Haddad's status. It should be recalled that ties with Maj Haddad were first established when Rabin was prime minister and Peres was defense minister.

As for the debate on Ya'aqobi's motion for a withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River, it seems that a majority in the political committee and in the bureau of the Labor Party are inclined to reject the motion. But the debate has been deferred on account of Shultz's visit to Israel and the party leadership's desire to await the outcome of the visit. At the request of the U.S. Secretary of State, the Labor party leaders will meet with him on Friday.

David Levi on Lebanon Negotiations, U.S. Role

TA270637 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] There are signs of a slight movement in the negotiations in the direction of achieving a speedy agreement, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said last night in New York. He also expressed his objection to a unilateral Israeli withdrawal unless a total deadlock is occurs in the talks. Here is a report on Levi's appearance by Arye Meckel from New York:

[Begin recording] [Meckel] Minister David Levi said that so far the United States has pressured only Israel, but now there are signs that the United States will demonstrate a more balanced approach regarding an arrangement in Lebanon. The pressure directed against only one party led to the impasse in the talks, Levi said, and it has been proven that if the United States wants, it is perfectly capable of pressuring Lebanon to fulfill what it had earlier agreed to. Minister Levi emphasized that the continuation of the present state of affairs harbors danger,and that the Soviet intervention in Syria must concern the United States, too, and indeed the Americans have understood this. In response to a question, Levi expressed his opposition to a unilateral IDF withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River, saying: Such an option should only be considered if a stalemate prevails in the talks.

[Levi] Such an approach could only be timely if we reach a situation of a deadlock and an impasse, whereas I favor a continued dialogue. Now, with the United States more actively involved through the mission of Secretary of State Shultz, I do not support any option, but rather favor continuing the negotiations.

[Meckel] Minister Levi reported that he may go to Washington for a couple of days to hold talks with administration members there, but this is still questionable. [end recording]

Schiffer on U.S. Proposals, Hopes for Lebanon

TA270524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Excerpt] If the cliche that says that the moment of truth has come is true, then today we are very close to it. Everything has already been said and argued in the negotiations with Lebanon, which is why George Shultz will present Israel with the alternative: Either to have an agreement with Lebanon that is founded on U.S. guarantees for the security of the northern border, the establishment of a U.S.-Israeli-Lebanese supervisory committee together with a limited Israeli presence in the south, as well as a curtailed status of Major Sa'd Haddad; or a continued stay in Lebanon with the Haddad system, without an arrangement with that country.

Shultz will try to persuade Israel using many arguments, primarily the tension with the Syrians and the increased Soviet involvement in the area. In the view of U.S. sources, the secretary of state expects his friend Moshe Arens to make gestures and concessions, particularly in view of the gesture he had obtained for the transfer of technological knowhow for the manufacture of the Lavi. The Americans believe that Shultz is coming at the right moment, as the Israeli public and government are really prepared to make gestures and concessions, for obvious reasons.

The current Israeli position, prior to the consultations with the prime minister, is as follows: During consultations held last weekend in the defense minister's office, Chief of Staff Moshe Levi insisted that the security arrangements in the south be based on the establishment headed by Maj Sa'd Haddad. Ministers Shamir and Arens made no decision at that session, nor did they work out a different position.

Meanwhile, in the contacts with Shultz, Israel will demand direct arrangements between it and Lebanon, and there may be some more flexibility if it transpires that the system of supervision for the security arrangements is comprehensive, allowing Israel to obtain an instant picture of what is happening in southern Lebanon. As I have already said, Shamir and Arens did not decide, and therefore the Americans are pinning all their hopes on the meetings with the prime minister.

Recent British Middle East Moves Protested

TA261239 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Israel has protested to Britain over recent British diplomatic steps in the Middle East. In Jerusalem, the head of European division at the Foreign Ministry, Yohanan Meroz, called in British Ambassador Patrick Moberly to question recent statements by British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, and

diplomat Douglas Hurd's meeting with PLO official Faruq Qaddumi. Pym has implied that Israel bears responsibility for the stalemate in Middle East peace efforts.

Meroz totally rejected the accusations, saying that Israel views them as an encouragement of the Arab rejectionist camp, and harmful to the peace process. The Israeli representative also voiced annoyance and dismay over the Hurd-Qaddumi meeting. He noted that in recent weeks, the PLO has again proved that it is ready to jeopardize any move toward peace.

Bar-On Meets With Hurd

TA270549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Israel protested to Britain on hints that its foreign minister made that Israel is responsible for the impasse in the negotiations with Lebanon. The British ambassador in Israel was invited to a meeting with the head of the European Division of the Foreign Ministry, Yohanan Meroz, yesterday. He was told that Israel condemns these allegations. Israel regards them as encouragement for the rejectionist front and believes they are harmful to the chances for peace. Here is a report by Shim'on Tessler from London:

[Begin Tessler recording] Along with the summons given to the British ambassador to the Foreign Ministry in Israel, the ministry's deputy director general, Hanan Bar-On, was invited to a courtesy meeting in the London Foreign Office. Bar-On, on a private visit here, heard from Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hurd and another senior official in the Foreign Office another recitation of the extremist anti-Israeli positions England often employs in public. Israel is conducting an extremist policy, and its status following the war in Lebanon is at a very low ebb, they said. Israel is foiling any attempt to reach an arrangement, while the Arabs on the other hand evince a sensible policy which is relatively moderate.

The Israeli Government has refrained from reacting to this clear-cut, obvious shift toward a more anti-Israeli policy in the last few weeks. Thus it said nothing either on the official plain or indirectly. When the British foreign secretary announced that his deputy would meet with Faruq Qaddumi in Tunis, it was the British Board of Deputies that sent a protest letter to the Foreign Office. The Israeli Government and the Foreign Ministry showed no interest in it. Judging by promises Pym had made to Husayn, and Hurd to Qaddumi, the date for full British recognition of the PLO is near. [end recording]

U.S. Wants To Extradite Nazi War Criminals

TA270821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] The United States wants to extradite to Israel Nazi war criminals no other country is prepared to take in. A senior U.S. official will arrive in Israel today to discuss this matter. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that Israeli elements are not enthusiastic over these prospects. The person who is to arrive today is (Neil Sherr), one of the top Department of Justice officials, who handles the affairs of Nazi war criminals who penetrated the United States and who are about to be expelled.

Apparently the United States is unable to find a country that will agree to take the deportees in, which is why it wants Israel to agree to accept them and try them. A case in point is the fact that the United States has for some months now been unable to find a place to deport Bishop (Valerian Triffa), the head of the U.S. Romanian church, who at the time headed a fascist group in Romania and participated in the murder of Jews. Our correspondent says that the Israeli elements object to receiving this criminal here, preferring to have the United States solve its judicial problems on its own.

Major West Bank Daily Bulletin is Banned

TA260952 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Jerusalem District Representative Rafa'el Levy has banned the publication and distribution of a daily newsletter that for the past four years has provided foreign correspondents and diplomats with a major source of information about developments in the West Bank.

Levy's order, served on the PALESTINE PRESS AGENCY which operates in East Jerusalem, said that the news service was operating without a licence. This followed a demand that the newsletter be submitted to military censorship, as are the three East Jerusalem Arabic dailies and some weekly newsmagazines from which it draws and translates most of its information.

The editor of the news service, Ibrahim Karain, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Ne'eman Wants Development of Israeli Reactor

TA261201 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Apr 83 p 7

[Report by Ze'ev Struminsky]

[Text] Israel will be able to produce most of its electricity in the future from nuclear power stations, and in the end some ten nuclear power stations might be built in Israel. This or a similar number will enable Israel to produce nuclear reactors by itself on a profitable basis. Therefore the development of nuclear energy in Israel is not dependent on the readiness of other countries to sell nuclear reactors to Israel. This was stated by Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman in a talk with a DAVAR correspondent.

Professor Ne'eman said that this view is not in opposition to the recommendations of the Herov Committee which investigated the subject of establishing nuclear power stations in Israel. As might be recalled, the Horev Committee claimed that there is no possibility of self-development of nuclear reactors in Israel on a profitable basis.

Minister Ne'eman said that the committee reached this conclusion because it was asked to examine the question regarding the

relatively near future. However, if the time limit is removed, the picture changes significantly, Minister Ne'eman said.

He noted that from estimates done by U.S. expert Eduard Teller, it appears that the building of a nuclear power station by Israel itself will take 2 or 3 years longer than building a nuclear power station in which the reactor is imported. The speed of building a second station would be no different than that of a power station in which the reactor is imported, while for a third station the building time would be shorter if the reactor is self-developed.

ALGERIA

PRC Culture Minister Signs Protocol, Departs

LD261719 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Algiers, 26 Apr (APS) — Zhu Muzhi, PRC minister of culture, left Algiers this afternoon at the end of his official visit, which took place from 21 to 26 April at the Ministry of Culture's invitation.

The Chinese minister of culture's visit to Algeria falls within the framework of the agreement of cooperation and cultural exchanges concluded by the two countries in Beijing in 1980. During this visit a protocol for cultural exchanges and cooperation for 1984-85 was signed.

LIBYA

London AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR on Army Criticism

PM211506 London AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR in English 16 Apr 83 pp 1,4

[Unattributed article: "The Army: A Revolutionary Establishment"]

[Text] Self criticism and self appraisal are fundamental to revolutionary action. They serve as the basis of all creative revolutionary work and therefore no one can become a god who is above criticism.

Organisations which have failed to observe this revolutionary rule within their own ranks have become dull or rigid bureaucratic establishments because they lacked one of the most important elements necessary for their development.

This rule occupies a special place among the rules of the Revolution in mass ideological thinking. Therefore, the leadership of the Revolution continues to incite and urge the revolutionary force to practise that rule in a courageous and responsible way, so as to provoke thought and thereby increase the awareness of the masses.

Two weeks ago I read an article in AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR entitled "The Army: Hashish and Foolishness," which was written by our young men. Mass thinking perceives an ultimate vision of information for the masses in the form of wall posters for which no one could write an article such as that published in AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR because representation is alien to the ideology of the masses and because no one can express another's opinion, with the result that an article would only reflect the ideas of its author.

Mass Information

Despite the exceptional stage reached by mass information, I found it necessary to clearly point this out so that there can be no misunderstanding about the true nature of mass information. The author of this article committed a great polemical mistake by demanding that the Army as an establishment be destroyed and then reformed. He or she then gave the following mistaken reason for this view.

In the opinion of the author, the Army is 'corrupt, reactionary and bourgeois.' But if it were corrupt then it could not properly be described as an army, for an army in the correct sense of the word should have none of these characteristics. Perhaps the army as an institution should cease to exist, regardless of whether it is reactionary or revolutionary since it is by its nature alien to the authority of the people. The Army is seen as ideologically unacceptable because mass theory is based on the idea of the communal possession of authority, wealth, and arms.

However it should be remembered that the Revolution did not inherit from the defunct monarchy an army composed of a few thousand demoralised and naive Bedouin such as that in which even the extinct monarchy had lost faith, but that in fact this army was replaced by a new one including the activists of the Free Officers Movement, which was able to carry out the greate. act of transformation in history. It was a unique act which distinguished the Al-Fatih Revolution from other revolutions. So, the Army was built by the Revolution and it became the Army of the Revolution and of the people because the Revolution belongs to the people.

When we hold a discussion based on logic and scientific analysis and when we ask what is the nature of the force which makes up the Army, we say that it is a proletarian force of the poor, of the struggling and the illiterate who, logically speaking, have their own selfish and bourgeois aspirations which are less pronounced than those of other social forces within society.

It it not necessarily a reactionary force, but a progressive one by virtue of its sense of belonging and destiny. We must also admit that the prevalent culture in society is bourgeois, rightwing, reactionary, and selfish and constitutes the real danger which threatens the people's authority. This is the reality which we should be prepared to destroy and replace with a mass culture.

However the Army is part of the people. Because the constituent groups within it are themselves of the oppressed, who are uninfluenced by bourgeois culture because they were originally deprived of education, the influence on them of that culture is correspondingly minimized.

Similarly, when we say that the college, institution, basic people's congress and so on are revolutionary institutions, we do not mean to say that everyone within them is also a revolutionary. What we mean is that the revolutionary committee has the initiative and provides a revolutionary climate and thereby helps the instituion or whatever to move in a revolutionary direction and manner.

Some Individuals

However, while I admit that some individuals in the armed forces have been corrupt and have corrupted others, casting a shadow and black marks on the good record of our armed forces and while I also admit that there are some bourgeois, reactionary and fascist manifestations within other groups of society influenced by the culture we live in, I must emphasise on the basis of a

scientific revolutionary outlook that the Army is a proletarian revolutionary establishment controlled by the revolutionary committees.

As for the social ills which the author of the article has referred to, these do exist within the Army of the poor but to a lesser extent than within other sectors of society. The author can refer to statistics and research carried out by social and educational institutions where he will find ample proof of this.

Piety is linked with poverty. Yet no society is free from the diseases which were mentioned in the article, since they are the result of deviant behaviour most of which stems from cultural causes. But we are proud of the originality of our people which, although not educationally and technically advanced, continues to have the good manners and high values which dignify human existence.

Our Army, the Army of the poor, is closely associated with the depressed sectors of the people whose interest lies in the destruction — material, cultural and behavioural — of the old society, so that we can build a new, happy society of the masses. Our armed forces have reason to be proud because they are distinguished from others by the fact that they are establishing a free society and by the fact that they live for the day when the popular masses can achieve their historic victory and establish a society where the people are the masters, a society where authority, wealth and arms will be in the people's hands.

We say long live the Army of the people, the Army of the poor, the nucleus of the armed people. This Army is the revolutionary, proletarian army of the masses.

Related AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR Article
PM211514 London AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR in English 16 Apr 83 pp 1,4

[Unattributed article: "A List of Questions"]

[Text] The article which AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR published recently criticising the Army stirred up quite a lot of controversy. Internationally, it provoked wide-ranging reactions and a variety of interpretations and different opinions. But its effect at the national level was, by any measure, far greater.

The issue containing the article was quickly sold out and the people expressed their admiration of and satisfaction with the direct and outspoken article because it sought to uncover the truth. Citizens had nothing to add to the article, all they had to do was decide on the solution, drawing up lists of those detained for being caught red-handed. The minutes of the meetings of the Armed Forces' Revolutionary Committees recorded that these committees did not come to the defence of a handful of criminal fascists and asked that they should be crushed and awaited the order from the leader to take prompt action.

Some people, both inside and outside the country, say without hesitation that the true author of the article was the leader himself, while the few who claimed to be in the know said that he did not actually write it but that it was at the very least written on his instructions. However, the Revolutionary Committee which publishes AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR knows the truth and had no choice but to remain silent, while awaiting reactions to the article, some of which were spontaneous and hysterical, others being calm and balanced. But since the author of the article is known for his standpoint on government institutions such as the Army or any other, a standpoint arising from a mature ideology and a clear vision, and since this author is well identified with AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR's views, those who reacted hystericaly to the article had every reason to do so, because the position of AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR towards them is well known. Those who muted their reaction had a reason to do so and only God knows what was in their minds.

However, AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR comes out this week with its front page leading with an article written by the Army itself. We publish it so that the people may read it at their people's congresses and then take a decision on the issue. We publish it in order to test the minds, the conscience and the commitment of the popular masses. We would also like to make a number of important remarks.

Firstly, how many Armed Forces' revolutionary committees have so far succeeded in carrying out their duties and tasks and what positions do members of the ranks and non-commissioned officers (namely the poor) hold on these committees? Also, what role is there in these committees for the young officers who were brought up and educated in the shade of the Al-Fatih Revolution and who joined the revolutionary committees while they were still students?

Secondly, how many lectures have been given to officers or even as part of the curricula of the military colleges which define the Army as 'a group of the poor of the people, armed to defend the authority of the people'? What is the meaning of words and terms such as civilian, military, people's congress, revolutionary committee, people's committee and free officer?

Thirdly, is it true that there exists a mass army which defends the 'proletariat'? If so, who are the owners of 'proletarian' cars, palaces and who have local and foreign 'proletarian' links? Why should the citizen fear the officer of a proletarian army and hand over to him everything he demands, without delay? How can the army be regarded as being 'of the poor' if it is an independent social class within society, with its own rules and privileges and which is beyond the influence of the revolutionary transformation which is daily being carried out by the people? As for the poor within the Army, who knows what exploitation and humiliation they are subjected to by reactionaries, bourgeois elements and fascists who torment the simple and illiterate poor in this 'proletarian' army?

Fourthly, can any one of us actually count the number of plots which fascist officers have hatched in an attempt to completely destroy the Great Al Fatih revolution and therefore also the authority of the people? Can any one of us be sure of the attitude of the Army towards the authority of the people today and in the future?

Era of the Masses

Fifthly, how many senior officers whom we know well have been able to absorb the culture of the era of the masses and join the revolutionary committees out of revolutionary conviction?

What do students study in the military colleges? What do the senior officers say to the young ones and to the rank and file about the authority of the people, about people's congresses and committees, and about the revolutionary organisation, the revolutionary committees? What do they say to each other about these and other matters in private, whether in their barracks, at the seaside, in their apartments, or their luxurious offices?

Finally, did the Lebanese lady who brought seven kilogrammes of hashish into the country aim to contact anyone in the proletarian army? Were the brides found with hashish at the airport 'proletarian' brides too? What about the others who have or have not been seized?

We submit to you this list of questions which must be answered, within the context of the criticism and self-appraisal which is being urged on us by the leadership of the revolution and which irritates others. The latter aim to abort mobilisation and wish to undermine the revolutionary committees in the Army under the pretext of preserving discipline.

They also aim to combat and prevent the spread of revolutionary culture and the intriguing against the authority of the people. They seek class division and the stratification of society and wish to exercise their dominance over the people.

The above is presented to the revolutionary committees in the armed forces so that they may open their eyes to these very serious developments.

Egyptian Weekly Reports Students Clashes

PM260840 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 23 Apr 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Twenty-five Students and Teachers in Libya Die on Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's Orders"]

[Text] Clashes broke out recently in Libyan universities between members of revolutionary committees and university students and teachers, as a result of which 25 students and faculty members died at universities of Tripoli, Banghazi, and Sabha.

The action by the revolutionary committee members was in implementation of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's directives on the 7 April anniversary of the purging from Libyan universities of opposition elements described as reactionary and opposed to the Green Book.

MOROCCO

Boucetta Hopes for Arab Conference in May

LD270533 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Tangier, 26 Apr (MAP) — Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has announced that there were still continuous communications among the various Arab capitals to ensure the convocation of an emergency Arab summit conference. In a statement to KUNA, Boucetta said that the outcome of the communications among the various Arab capitals will emerge during next week, and expressed his hope that the emergency summit conference would be held during May.

Boucetta stressed Morocco's committment to the Nairobi summit's resolutions on the Saharan problem, which called for carrying out a referendum. He categorically denied that there were any intentions for talks to be held between the Saharan Consultative Council and the so-called Polisario. He said: Morocco is committed to the Nairobi resolutions and is prepared to implement them under international supervision. Boucetta pointed out that consultations among the Maghreb countries were being held for the realization of greater Arab Maghreb unity. On the other hand, he denied reports that the Libyan Secretary of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki has recently visited Morocco. However, he said communications with Libya was continuing and that they have never stopped.

SUDAN

President Numayri Receives Message From King Fahd

JN261532 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Apr (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today received an oral message from his brother King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The message dealt with the state of affairs and security developments in the Arab region. The message was conveyed to the president by King Fahd's personal envoy Prince Turki Ibn Faysal Ibn 'Abdallah Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The president and the Saudi envoy discussed the joint moves within the framework of continued consultations between Sudan and Saudi Arabia and efforts to solve the Palestinian issue. They also reviewed recent developments related to the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon, attempts to accelerate the withdrawal operation, and the Israeli provocations in the Al-Biqa' Valley. The two sides then discussed the developing bilateral relations and means of bolstering them. The Saudi envoy arrived in the country last night.

ETHIOPIA

Two Nuns Reportedly Kidnapped 'Last Week'

AB261531 Paris AFP in English 1511 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Nairobi, April 26 (AFP) — Separatist guerrillas kidnapped two Roman Catholic nuns last week in Ethiopia's Wollo Province at the same time that they captured eight foreign relief workers, diplomatic sources reported here today.

The nuns were an Italian and an Ethiopian of Italian descent sent to the town of Korem to join relief operations for drought victims.

The relief workers, whose capture was only revealed today, were seized on Wednesday by separatists of the Tigrean People's Liberation Front (TPLF).

Correction to Ethiopian Minister Appointment List

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "New Foreign Minister Appointed 23 April," published in the 25 April Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT on page R 1. Line eight of the table should read: Minister of Health, Sports, and Physical Training: Comrade Dr Brig Gen Gizaw Tsehai. (correcting transposition)

TANZANIA

PRC Premier Greets Nyerere on Untiy Jubilee

EA251637 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Dar es Salaam: Congratulatory messages continue to pour into the country marking tomorrow's 16th anniversary of the Tanganyika-Zanzibar merger.

The latest message was received by President Nyerere from Chinese Premier Ndugu Zhao Ziyang, who wished Tanzanians success in building the economy and strenthening their freedom under the firm leadership of Mwalimu Nyerere. Ndugu Zhao said in the mesage that he is impressed by the efforts and determination of Tanzanians to improve their lives and enhance their friendship with the people of the PRC.

President Nyerere also received a special greetings message from President Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda. The message was delivered to Mwalimu at his home in Msasani, Dar es Salaam by Rwandan Interior Minister Ndugu Thomas Habanabakize.

Foreign Minister Cited on Relations With Kenya

EA251854 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 25 Apr 83 p 1

[Article by correspondent in Dar es Salaam: "Division of Assets Crucial — DAR"]

[Text] Tanzania still regards the division of assets and liabilities of the defunct East African Community (EAC) as a major factor in the restoration of its relation with Kenya.

Tanzania's foreign minister, Mr. Salim Ahmad Salim in an interview published in that country's "SUNDAY NEWS" said a resolution on the division of the former EAC property would pave the way for "a new chapter of cooperation" between both countries.

The division of the former EAC property is central to the normalisation of relations with Kenya, Mr Salim said, stressing that the question of reopening of the border with Kenya should not be looked at in isolation from EAC property issue.

He underlined his country's commitment to cooperation with former EAC partner states "telling from the history of ties of friendship and solidarity and the bond of cooperation between our countries and people. The present situation is an anachronism" Mr. Salim said.

He said the establishment of diplomatic relations between Kenya and Tanzania would be decided by the two governments after normalisation process started.

He said negotiations over the EAC property were at an advanced stage and "going on fairly well". Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda had agreed on nearly all points on the division of the property, he said.

"What had not been decided upon, he said, was the formula for a redivision and equality of ownership of the assets." He expressed the hope that the next round of talks by the three countries would help to reach an acceptable formula.

On the crisis facing the 51-member Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Mr. Salim said it could best be solved by member countries attending the proposed summit in Addis Ababa next June.

CHAD

France's Nucci Signs Aid Agreement, Leaves

AB261755 Paris AFP in French 1555 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 26 Apr (AFP) — Christian Nucci, French minister delegate for cooperation and development, left Ndjamena on Tuesday following a 1-day visit during which he signed a 1.3 billion CFA franc financial aid agreement with the Chadian Government. Signed on Tuesday by Nucci and Chadian Foreign Affairs Minister Idriss Miskine, the agreement stipulates that 1 billion CFA francs will be delegated to Chad's "priority" programs and to the operating costs of the Chadian Embassy in Paris as well as to the purchase of fuel for the Chadian Electric Company. According to official sources, this agreement is the second phase of the overall financial aid for 1983, which amounts to [words indistinct].

Following his 1-hour (?discussion) with Chadian President Hissein Habre on Tuesday, the French minister delegate said that the Chadian leader would like to see French-Chadian cooperation "reactivated" so that it can result in "concrete actions." [Words indistinct], Mr Nucci confirmed that the Chadian head of state informed him about his country's "preoccupations" and asked him to submit a request to the French Government so it can be "studied with the greatest benevolence."

In a toast he gave on Monday during a dinner in his honor, the French cooperation and development minister [title as received] said he would leave Ndjamena "with the conviction that the efforts we have undertaken and the aid that France is giving to Chad are well deserved." Nucci, who visited the city of Ndjamena on Monday, said he was "saddened" by the spectacle of destruction reflected by the Chadian capital. "France will meet its pledges at the diplomatic level as well as in the form of aid it will give for the reconstruction of Chad," he stressed.

On his part, the Chadian foreign affairs minister said during the same dinner, "France has shown true solidarity toward Chad by giving it considerable assistance in different fields." Miskine added that Chad's problem at the moment is a "question of survival." Referring to Libya, Miskine said that "a neighboring country is not only occupying a part of Chadian territory but is persisting in its efforts to revive the war."

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Seriche Meets With Spain's Moran 25 April

AB251837 Paris AFP in French 1546 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Madrid, 25 Apr (AFP) — Christino Seriche, the prime minister and vice president of Equatorial Guinea, held talks on Monday with Spanish Foreign Affairs Minister Fernando Moran, it was learned from Spanish diplomatic sources. Mr Moran and Mr Seriche examined comprehensive cooperation between the two countries during this first official contact between representatives of Madrid and Malabo since the Socialists came to power in Spain last December. These Spain-Equatorial Guinea talks, which started on Monday, are expected to result in a new orientation of bilateral cooperation, these sources indicated. Since the overthrow of dictator Macias N'guema in 1979, total Spanish aid to its former colonly has been estimated at about 15 billion pesetas ($110 million).

The prime minister of Equatorial Guinea, we recall, arrived last Saturday in Madrid at the head of his country's delegation, consisting notably of Guillermo Ela N'guema, the minister of planning and development, and Andres Ivasa Nko, the minister of economy and finance. Also scheduled on this delegation's program is a round of talks on Tuesday between Mr Seriche and Felipe Gonzalez, the president of the Spanish Government.

Opposition Wants Talks on Ending Military Rule

AB261312 Paris AFP in English 1239 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Madrid, April 26 (AFP) — A movement grouping Equatorial Guinea's opposition forces has called on President Teodoro Obiang Nguema to open negotiations within two months concerning an end to military rule in the west African country. In a statement released yesterday to coincide with the arrival here of Equatorial Guinea Vice-President Captain Cristino Seriche Bioko, the coordinating junta of the Equatorial Guinea opposition forces, recommended that the talks take place in Spain "under the moral authority" of King Juan Carlos.

The coordinating junta, formed early this month, also asked Spain to take a "firm stand" with Equatorial Guinea. The statement said that the negotiations would concern the formation of a national government of reconstruction and the holding of general elections within a year.

BENIN

Al-Qadhdhafi Visit Set for 28-30 April

AB262100 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Report on National Executive Council extraordinary meeting chaired by President Mathieu Kerekou, held in Cotonou on 26 April — read by Gregoire Agbahe, minister of tourism, handicrafts and leisure]

[Excerpt] During this session, the head of state informed the members of the National Executive Council that in response to his invitation, His Excellency Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, will make an official visit to Benin accompanied by a high-level delegation. The leader of the Arab-Libyan revolution of 1 September 1969 will visit our country from Thursday, 28 April, to Saturday, 30 April 1983. The program of his visit, which was studied and adopted by the National Executive Council, will be made public by the minister of interior and public security, who is also president of the National Committee for Festivities and Official Events.

The National Executive Council calls on all militants of the Beninese revolution to give His Excellency Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Arab-Libyan revolution, and his delegation a warm and friendly welcome so that his official visit to our country can be a success equal to our deep tradition of hospitality and to the ties of friendship which unite the peoples of Libya and Benin.

IVORY COAST

President Seeks Proposals on Teachers Strike

AB261516 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] As promised, the president of the republic and of the party chaired a meeting this morning from 1000 to 1300 at the State House. The meeting, which dealt exclusively with the situation resulting from the strike by secondary school teachers, was attended by members of the Political Bureau and the Steering Committee, as well as by party section secretaries general and prefects. After elaborating on the current situation, the head of state asked all those attending the meeting to reflect on the situation and make proposals the day after tomorrow, Thursday, at the State House.

University Teachers To Strike

AB261442 Paris AFP in French 1315 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Abidjan, 26 Apr (AFP) — Researchers and teachers from institutions of higher learning in the Ivory Coast have decided to support secondary school teachers, and have also given notice that they will go on strike beginning Thursday, 28 April. This strike notice is contained in leaflets distributed in Abidjan on Tuesday morning by the National Union for Research and Higher Education [SYNARES]. This union was dissolved in February 1982, when it passed a motion calling on teachers to go on a general strike in support of students who were protesting the cancellation of a university lecture entitled: "Democracy in a One-Party State."

The text of the leaflets published on Tuesday morning and signed by a national executive bureau acting for the SYNARES states that the researchers and teachers of institutions of higher learning demand their right to free housing. They are also demanding that people who are guilty of speculation and misappropriation be publicly denounced and tried. This refers to some recently-revealed cases of misappropriation which have prompted the Ivory Coast Government to abolish the right to free housing for many civil servants as of 1 January 1983. In the same leaflets, teachers and researchers of higher institutions in the Ivory Coast are asking for the restoration of their democratic rights and their right to organize in any way they like or they see fit. [Words indistinct] the National Union of Secondary School Teachers of the Ivory Coast [SYNECI] and its members were suspended last week by a decision of President Houphouet-Boigny. Teachers in higher institutions warn that beginning Thursday, 28 April, they will begin a strike action "until a satisfactory solution is found to their numerous problems."

Along with the spread of strike action comes word that the Political Bureau and the Steering Committee of the ruling Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast will meet on Tuesday morning at the Presidential Palace. President Houphouet-Boigny will personallypreside on this occasion. The meeting is expected to examine the situation caused by the discontent among teachers.

It will be recalled that President Houphouet-Boigny categorically refused last Thursday to respond favorably to the grievances of secondary school teachers on their right to free housing.

Correction to Houphouet-Boigny Speech

The following corrections pertain to the item headlined "Houphouet-Boigny Addresses Nation on Teachers Strike," published in the 25 April Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT, page T 1:

third paragraph, line seventeen...past 3 years, we have had reserves of 170,000 tons bought from farmers ...(rewording)

fourth paragraph, line six ...francs. We deliberately abandoned several useful investments for which we had found the financing in order not to surpass the debt ceiling we had fixed. One does not...(rewording)

NIGER

Ouedraogo Ends Visit, Returns to Upper Volta

AB261256 Paris AFP in French 1031 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Niamey, 26 (AFP) — Upper Voltan head of state Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo left Niamey on Tuesday morning for Ouagadougou, following a 48 hour-visit to Niger. Thus, the

chairman of the People's Salvation Council (CSP-in power in Upper Volta) ended his first tour of several countries of the subregion since he came to power on 7 November. This 8-day tour took him to Togo, Ghana, Benin and Niger respectively.

Speaking to the press before leaving Niamey, President Ouedraogo stated that "Upper Volta is open to all countries which want to assist in its development, but does not at all want to be dominated or subdued by any ideology or country which would seek to dictate its pace to it."

"Upper Volta wishes to remain its own master" he said [words indistinct], implicitly referring to the influence of Marxism and that of Libya on his country since the CSP came to power.

"The political label people want to give at all costs to our regime is part of the propaganda campaign largely orchestrated by the mass media," the Upper Voltan head of state remarked. "Our only ideology," Major Ouedraogo went on, "is to work for the salvation of the people, that is, to feed them and to clothe them decently, to give them the opportunity and the means to get an education, in a nutshell, to open for them the prospects of a brighter future." The Upper Voltan head of state recalled the 2-year deadline which the CPS gave itself to return the country to "normal constitutional life" and to "make the soldiers return to their barracks." By then, he added, Upper Voltans will have had time to freely choose their leaders.

Finally, he reaffirmed Upper Volta's commitment to African regional and subregional organizations of which it is a member, and in particular the Entente Council (Ivory Coast, Benin, Togo, Niger, Upper Volta), the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS — which groups the eight Sahel states) and the Integrated Development Authority for the Liptako-Gourma Region (Niger, Mali, Upper Volta).

NIGERIA

Al-Qadhdhafi Lays Wreath, Begins Talks

AB261246 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The visiting Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, today laid a wreath at the National Remembrance Arcade Cenotaph at Tafawa Balewa Square. He was received at the arcade by the minister of internal affairs, Alhaji Ali Baba, and the commander of the brigade of guards of the Nigerian Army, Colonel (Mohamed Aliyu). Col al-Qadhdhafi later inspected a guard of honor mounted by a detachment of the Nigerian Army. He also visited the National Museum at Onikan, where he was conducted round the arts and artifacts depicting the lives and cultural heritage of Nigeria. The Libyan leader has since returned to State House, Ribadu Road, for the first round of talks with President Shehu Shagari, which started a few minutes ago. Tomorrow, Col al-Qadhdhafi will visit the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria, ASCON, in Badagri, instead of the visit to Kaduna State as previously announced. The minister of external affairs, Professor Ishaya Audu, who announced this to newsmen in Lagos today, did not give reasons for the change.

Further Report

AB261553 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Nigeria and Libya today started talks on matters of mutual interest. President Shehu Shagari is leading the Nigerian team at the talks while the Libyan side is headed by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who began a 4-day state visit to the country yesterday.

At the opening of the talks at State House, Ribadu Road, the two leaders emphasized the need to enhance cooperation between the two countries to the mutual benefit of their peoples. President Shagari said it was his belief that the visit of the Libyan leader, which had long been expected, will help to cement and reinforce the cordial and fraternal relations existing between the two countries. He stated that the talks would offer the necessary opportunity for considering matters on vital areas of cooperation, identify and eliminate problem areas, and will restore the historic mutual and brotherly relations between both countries. President Shagari noted that the possibilities for cooperation were limitless and hoped with essential guidance the ministers and officials will deliberate in detail on important issues that are of paramount interest in promoting mutually beneficial cooperation.

In his remarks, the Libyan leader said he looked forward to continued cooperation with Nigeria and the establishment of mutual understanding among member countries of the OAU, Nonaligned Movement, and the Third World. Col al-Qadhdhafi noted that intentions abound for enhancing mutual cooperation between Nigeria and Libya in many fields and did not foresee any problems to the accomplishment of that objective. The Libyan leader said that it was necessary for Nigeria and his country to promote such cooperation for the benefit of their peoples and Africa in general.

The second and final round of talks between the two leaders and members of their delegations will be held later this afternoon.

JANA on Visit

LD261952 Tripoli JANA in English 1712 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Lagos, Rajab 14, Apr 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Libyan-Nigerian talks started here this afternoon headed by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi leader of Al-Fatih revolution and President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria. Present at the talks also were the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industry, secretary of the Islamic Call Society, secretary of the International Green Book Research Center, secretary of the Jamahiriyah's diplomatic mission to Lagos and delegates from various secretariats.

On the Nigerian side also were the minister of foreign affairs, Ishaya Audu, the ministers of agriculture, industry and sports, Central Bank governor, government secretary, advisers to the president for political, oil and information affairs and head of Africa's department.

The revolution's leader delivered a speech during the talks in which he conveyed appreciation for the immense hospitality with which he was received by the brotherly Nigerian people. He said: "We feel completely at home as soon as we are on Nigerian soil and feel ourselves to be among our brothers and people. In fact we stand together on one soil, African soil."

The leader pointed to the ties linking the Libyan Arab and Nigerian people which include deep-rooted historic, racial and religious factors. He said that the two peoples share in common their language, religion and race. Irrespective of those aspects, he added, Africa is united by [word indistinct] destiny and enemy.

He continued: "We hope that this visit will promote brotherly relations between the two countries as well as joint action for the African cause and causes of the Third World, nonalignment and the world generally. We believe this meeting to be most useful especially as we appreciate Nigeria's role in Africa and the rest of the world.

If we are serious, our common capabilities enable us to set up a cooperation beneficial to our people. It is with this objective in mind that we meet today to lay down the foundation for cooperation between our two countries and which has no obstacles to hinder it."

In an earlier speech the Nigerian leader had welcomed the leader and the Libyan Arab delegation accompanying him and affirmed that the visit will consolidate brotherly relations between Nigeria and the Jamahiriyah in the political, economic and cultural fields.

He said: "We are fully aware of the strong historic ties which exist among the African people."

The Nigerian president regretted in his speech the success with which past imperialist rule had itself set up obstacles among the African people. He added: "This visit provides the two countries with the opportunity to discuss fields of cooperation to regain the ties which had existed in the past."

A number of specialised economic and cultural committees developed from the Libyan Arab-Nigerian talks to discuss aspects of bilateral cooperation.

SENEGAL

Niasse Speaks in Paris on Namibian Issue

AB261149 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Moustapha Niasse has been elected president of the International Conference on Solidarity with the Namibian People, who are fighting for their independence. The prime minister and minister of foreign affairs stressed the importance of such a conference before reviewing the Namibian issue. This conference, Moustapha Niasse stated, takes place at a crucial moment when the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435, considered the most valid plan for solving the Namibian problem, is in a state of total deadlock.

In Namibia itself, the effects of the strengthening of the repressive apartheid regime are currently being felt and this serious and alarming situation disturbs the president of the conference, Prime Minister Moustapha Niasse. This state of affairs,the prime minister pointed out, explains the interest that the world community attaches to this issue.

[Begin Niasse recording] In fact, [words indistinct] because of the obstinacy of the racist Pretoria regime and despite the pertinent resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council, the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement, and the judgment by the International Court of Justice on 21 June 1971 on one hand and the constant appeals and constructive efforts made by the international community beginning with you, Mr Secretary General, South Africa continues to illegally occupy Namibian territory and thus to defy the United Nations and the entire world community. South Africa is not only continuing with its efforts to perpetuate its racist domination and to establish on this territory the odious regime of apartheid [words indistinct] but it also seeks, through unjustifiable and repeated attacks, to destabilize legitimate governments of neighboring independent states such as Angola, whose only fault is that they harbor in their respective countries refugee brothers and freedom fighters. As you know, these attacks constitute a permanent source of tension in southern Africa. They endanger the stability of the region and are a serious threat to world peace and security. [end recording]

Prime Minister Niasse noted that 7 years have passed since the General Assembly decided to assume direct responsibility for the issue of Namibia's administration until it achieves independence. He pointed out that 5 years ago, at the initiative of the Western powers, the Security Council adopted Resolution 435, which is in every way the most appropriate plan to honorably solve the Namibian problem. Thus far, however, this has not been possible, Mr Niasse noted.

[Begin Niasse recording] The paradox is that the plan approved by Resolution 435 seems to have made South Africa more intransigent, because after the abortive Geneva conference and the unjustifiable stand taken by the Pretoria regime following this conference, the racist regime is now trying to give this decolonization problem an East-West dimension [words indistinct]. There is no doubt that South Africa is behaving more stubbornly and arrogantly and seeks to constantly challenge the world community because it is assured of support, protection and (?comlicity) from within the United Nations. This fact dangerously compromises the credibility of the organization and violates the spirit of its charter. Not unrelated is the inabilityof the Western Contact Group to show enough firmness toward Pretoria to compel it to accept the terms of the UN settlement plan. [end recording]

ANGOLA

ANGOP Warns of 'Imminent' RSA Attack

AB261848 Luanda ANGOP in French 1725 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Luanda, 26 Apr (ANGOP) — South African troops, which occupy the southern part of Angola, have begun a suspicious movement and concentration of troops in the eastern part of the Virei area which is in the Angolan province of Namibe. This movement suggests an imminent attack by the racists against other targets inside the People's Republic of Angola, it was learned yesterday from authoritative sources.

According to the same sources, reconnaissance flights have doubled since the previous week, [words indistinct] of the Naulila-Xango side of the border with Namibia toward Matala in the Angolan province of Huila and also toward Ngicanehone-Mupa. In this regard, the South African Air Force used at least 21 planes, of which 9 launched rocket attacks against the training camps of the 2d Brigade of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], the same sources continued.

It should be clearly seen that Pretoria continues its expansionist objectives by trying to expand the area it is occupying in Angola in a vain attempt to sabotage international efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement. With this in mind, the racists have been able to spread their armed activities inside the territory of the People's Republic of Angola, launching not only attacks against economic targets but also giving support to their lackeys, the rebel UNITA, by providing them with military and logistical support. They use planes and helicopters [words indistinct].

The close collaboration between UNITA and the racist army can no longer be denied since the rebel bandits' activities increase in proportion with the pressure put on Angola by the Pretoria troops. For example, early this year, it was noticed that the combined troops of UNITA and South Africa, particularly their "Buffalo" battle at Kalungo and Evale in the occupied area, led to a series of barbaric acts against defenseless people.

The total acts of aggression by South Africa within Angolan territory during the first 3 months of this year is estimated at not less than 148 air space violations, 7 land attacks, 1 land bombing, 5 air bombings, 1 concentration of troops and 6 troop landings. Used in these operatings were Mirage aircrafts, Impala MK-2, Puma and Allouette Helicopters, Cessna planes, a total of 265 planes, 10 helicopters, and a small carrier [as received].

Cheysson Speech at Namibia Meeting Cited

AB261502 Luanda ANGOP in French 1210 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, 26 Apr (ANGOP) — UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar opened on Monday at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris the international conference for solidarity with the struggling Nambibian people, which was also attended by OAU Secretary General Eden Kodjo and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson. The opening session of the 4-day conference sponsored by the UN, the OAU, the UN Council for Namibia, and SWAPO was marked by a minute's silence in memory of the victims of apartheid.

In his address to the opening session, Claude Cheysson, French external relations minister, pleaded with all, including South Africa, to find a peaceful solution by implementing the UN plan for Namibia. "Frustration and despair are intensifying. In the near future, violence could spread. The time for peace has come. My country is pleading with all, including the country that refused to be present at this meeting," said Claude Cheysson.

The French minister also criticized the United States and South Africa for linking the question of Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

MPLA Delegation Attending Frelimo Congress

AB262153 Luanda ANGOP in French 1800 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Maputo, 26 Apr (ANGOP) — An MPLA-Labor Party delegation led by Colonel Juliao Mateus (Dino Matross), Angolan state security minister and member of the Political Bureau, arrived in Maputo on Monday where it will attend the Fourth Congress of the Mozambique Frelimo Party which begins today. The Angolan delegation which includes Afonso van-Dunem M'Binda, Central Committee secretary for external relations, and Anjo Eduardo, [words indistinct] for Africa and the Middle East of the Central Committee's External Relations Department, was met at Maputo International Airport by Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique foreign affairs minister and member of the Frelimo Political Bureau.

UNITA Radio on Deception of Angolan Youth

MB261410 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 25 Apr 83

[UNITA radio: Youth Program]

[Text] Compatriots, Angolan youth: The future of the youth of Angola has been, to the most knowledgeable Angolans, a constant concern. It hurts us to watch, throughout the country, the endless process of the poisoning of the minds of our youth, an anti-Angolan process skillfully set up by the vagabonds and chieftains of the MPLA.

It is evident that the use of deception to mobilize and entice our youths from all segments of society is prevalent in the Methodology Department. This deception is prepared by the chieftain, Lucio Lara, in his criminal laboratory and passed on to his lackeys for implementation, particularly the displaced (Francisco Simoes).

Let us examine, comrades, the main protagonists of the process of destruction of the nationalist spirit of the Angolan people and consequently the destruction of the Angolan fatherland: Lucio Lara, a chieftain, a settler and a reactionary, is the man who plans the whole orchestration which blindly inspires our young

teachers, students, workers, and peasants to support the imperialist designs of revisionist Russia. The leading role played by the famous Lara is echoed by the desperate voice of the Portuguese, (Simoes). Logically, the macabre experience of the former Police for the Control of Foreigners and Defense of the State [PIDE] agent, (Simoes), is of the same use in making the radio an instrument of disinformation, psychological intoxication, and, finally, an instrument for the poisoning of minds of the oppressed people of Angola.

Regarding the reactionary (Simoes), we must say that it was very unfortunate that he identified himself as the official spokesman of the MPLA for lies about crimes against the Angolan youth before the oppressed people of Angola, before Angolan parents and before the most knowledgeable Angolan youth.

Let the vagabonds, Lara and (Simoes), know that now nobody ignores the wave of crimes being committed in Cuba against over 2,000 Angolan youths who left for Havana. Apart from the documentation we have about this betrayal against the fatherland, there are parents and relatives scattered throughout the country who know of the miserable conditions under which their children, brothers, cousins, brothers-in-law, and others live. The parents are aware of the physical and psychological abuse to which their children are subjected.

The chieftains and settlers who have built schools at (Pico) Island must not think that we are not able to know what their true designs are. The suffering Angolan people are not as ignorant and peaceful as they may appear, and who will not react when their children are castrated in Cuba to avoid making Cuban women pregnant? This is what is happening in that country. As soon as the boys reach the age of 16 they undergo medical examination for cruelly destructive aims.

The chieftains cannot get away with anything, for their crimes are well known. Even the so-called educational works at the sugar plantations are nothing but forced labor of an insulting and humiliating nature. The settlers then have the courage to say that the Angolan youth are well looked after. The abuse by those cannibals is even more evident when they portray themselves as promoters of social and universal harmony.

(Simoes), who in the past, as a PIDE agent, killed and ordered the killing of many blacks on Angolan plantations and in Angolan villages and cities, today is the official spokesman of the so-called process for the building of socialism in Angola under the leadership of Lara, (Ndalu), Paulo Jorge, Iko Carreira, Dos Santos, and others.

Angolan youth, awaken. In Angola, socialism can only be a reality if it is brought about through the efforts of Angolan patriots who, in fact, defend the true aspirations of the black people of Angola. It is therefore necessary for us to become aware of our own destiny so that with us the entire nation, from Cabinda to Cunene, may live in peace, freedom, and in social justice.

Let us join Comrade President Jonas Malheiro Savimbi and free our country from the foreign mob and criminals. Young people, advance to the north!

Kafundanga, is an exapmle to follow!

The struggle triumphs, and united around Comrade President Dr Savimbi we will win.

MOZAMBIQUE

PRC Envoy Presents Offer of Drought Aid

MB261314 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The People's Republic of China has offered Mozambique $500,000 for the drought victims. The whole of southern Mozambique is currently affected by drought. Rivers in some areas have run dry and there has been no rain for 2 years. The Chinese offer was handed yesterday by Ambassador Wang Hao to the Mozambican secretary of state for foreign affairs, Valeriano Ferrao.

The current drought is the worst in 50 years. In January Mozambique appealed for aid from the international community, which so far has responded favorably.

VOFA Reports on 22 Mar-19 Apr Operations

MB261447 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

["War communique on the country's situation and on operational activity issued by the headquarterrs of the Mozambique National Resistance, Renamo" — date not given]

[Text] Recently, the murderous Maputo troops burned dozens of houses of the people in the (Gundene) area. A number of these people was also massacred during the same operation. The aim of the Maputo forces is to force the people to leave the area on suspicion that they have links with the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo].

In (Balata), Inhambane Province, the people are on the side of Renamo. On 22 March 1983 the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] destroyed this village's water pump, in an attempt to force the population to leave the area and settle in communal villages.

Recently, FPLM forces mined the fields between the Savane sawmill and Galinkha, Sofala Province. The communist troops murdered 45 people in the Galinha and Chinamaconde areas, Sofala Province.

Meanwhile, our forces have captured assorted war material of Portuguese manufacture which was introduced in our country late in 1982 as a result of military agreements between the Government of Portugal and Frelimo.

Operational activities:

On 13 April 1983 Renamo forces attacked the enemy position at Manhica, Mabote. Hundreds of people who were living in communal villages were set free.

On the same day a freight train was ambushed on the line between Inhaminga and Muanza. The train was completely destroyed, and its cargo was distributed among the local population.

Shortly thereafter, the railway line was again sabotaged, and nine FPLM soldiers were killed. The following weapons were captured: 9 AK-47's, 3 RPG-7's, a pair of binoculars, 9 MGG's, and 12 RPG-7 shells.

On 14 April 1983, the Renamo forces sabotaged the railway line between Mutarara and Moatize in (Dzumira) area and disrupted the supply of electricity to the railway stations there.

Also on 14 April 1983, the Renamo forces attacked a position of Machel's troops at (Ianashani) in Gondola, killing 17 enemy soldiers, all of them Zimbabwean mercenaries. A large quantity of war material was captured.

On 15 April 1983, heavy fighting took place in the (Mucheme) area. Thirteen FPLM soldiers were killed, and the following material was captured: 3 bazookas of Portuguese manufacture, 15 AK-47's, 15 rockets, 2 MGG's, and 6 (?cartridge belts) with 35 caliber ammunition.

On 17 April 1983, the Renamo ambushed two military vehicles the Tete-Chimoi national road between Guro and Catandica in the (Ninhamuchenga) area. More than 9 men belonging to Maputo troops were killed during the ambushes, and 10 AK-47's and 2 RPG-7's with 8 shells were captured.

On 18 April 1983, Renamo forces inflicted heavy losses on Maputo forces in Mambone, and in their disorderly retreat, Machel's soldiers left behind six Mausers belonging to six dead militamen, 12 AK-47's, 5 FN's, 1 box of handgrenades, and 19 RPG-7'S among other war materiel.

On 18 April 1983, an enemy column was ambushed on the road between Chemba and Sena. The enemy suffered heavy losses and retreated in disarray toward Sena, where he had come from.

Finally, on 19 April 1983, enemy forces were ambushed by Renamo forces. Three vehicles were burnt near Sena, in Sofala. In this action, the enemy lost over 14 men. A large quantity of war materiel, and documents were captured by our soldiers. The struggle continues. Freedom or death, victory is ours.

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister on Namibia Conference

MB261643 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1602 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Cape Town, April 26, SAPA — The present United Nations-sponsored conference on S.W.A./Namibia in Paris was a "rash and destructive exercise," the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has said in a letter to the U.N. secretary general.

In the five page letter, a copy of which was released for publication in Cape Town this afternoon, Mr Botha said the decision to hold the so-called "Conference in Support of the Struggle of the Namibian People for Independence" raised serious doubts over the U.N.'s fitness to play the role envisaged for it in terms of Security Council Resolution 435.

By the way it was conducting the conference the U.N. was actively undermining Resolution 435's central purpose of bringing about a peaceful settlement by assuring the right of the people of the territory to determine their own future in free and fair elections. It did so by supporting SWAPO's "inexcusable" campaign of terrorist violence, generating propaganda in favour of SWAPO as the sole representative of the territory's people and by undermining delicate international negotiations aimed at finding a peaceful resolution and the removal of external threats to the security of the territory.

Mr Botha expressed his regrets, but no suprise, at the refusal by the conference to comply with conditions set out by South Africa's permanent representative at the U.N. "Evidently the challenge of treating the parties of South-West Africa on an equal basis and of promoting reconciliation instead of stirring up support for violence, has simply been too great for the United Nations organisers of the conference," he said. "As foreseen the conference has degenerated into yet another gratuitous and expensive exercise in the United Nations' vendetta against South Africa and the democratic parties of South-West Africa/Namibia." The conference so closely identified with SWAPO that its documentation bore a modified SWAPO logo, Mr Botha said.

The secretary general was aware that delicate international negotiations were underway and that important bilateral initiatives had been launched which has as their goal the resolution of broader regional security problems with which the settlement of the S.W.A./Namibian question was inextricably associated. "It is incomprehensible that the United Nations should now, at a cost of approximately one million dollars, launch such a rash and destructive exercise apparently with the main objective of undermining the progress which as been made. "It is even more difficult to grasp how an organisation, supposedly dedicated to the promotion of peace, should be advocating violence in such an unrestrained manner," Mr Botha said.

This was particularly so when SWAPO had taken 1,305 civilian lives in the territory unitl recently and a further nine on April 15. South Africa rejected the actions, authority, and existence of the so-called Council for Namibia, the use of violence and intimidaiton as a means of solving the S.W.A./Namibian dispute,and the idea that any one party should have special status. The South African Government accepted that the people of the territory had a right to determine their own future in free and fair elections in circumstances where they were assured of the constitutional rights as well as the impartiality of the United Nations,. Mr Botha said.

More Squatters Arrested at Cape Town Camp
MB261332 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] There has been another police raid on the KTC squatter settlement near Cape Town. Forty-four people have been arrested in this morning's predawn raid. They are expected to appear in the Langa commissioner's court to face charges under a 1968 regulation which governs the control and supervision of urban black residential areas. This morning's raid was the latest in a series of swoops on the camp by police and Western Cape Administration Board officials. In a raid on the camp last week police arrested 125 KTC squatters and burned their blankets and shelter materials.

Durban Black Community Leader Killed 25 April
MB261055 Umtata Capital Radio In English 0800 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] A prominent Durban community leader has been shot dead. Mr Harrison Dube was shot outside his Lamontville home last night. Here is Carmen Ricard: [Ricard] The shooting occurred shortly after he returned home from a meeting of the Joint Rent Action Committee. The committee has been elected by residents of townships controlled by the Port Natal Administration Board to represent them in opposing massive hikes in service charges due to take effect from 1 May. Dube represented Lamontville's Ward Three on the community council and had played a significant part in several community problems such as the protest in bus fare increases last year. He was about 50 years old and had worked as a part-time interpreter at the Supreme Court. In the 1960's Dube had spent 3 years on Robben Island for his involvement in ANC activities. Carmen Ricard, Capital News, Durban.

Mob Attacks Mayor's House
MB270542 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2243 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Durban, April 26, SAPA — One man is believed to have been killed and another was seriously injured tonight when a mob attacked the house of the mayor of Lamontville, Mr Moonlight Gasa. Earlier in the evening a bus was stoned and an attempt was made to burn it. Mobs of people surged through the township, apparently angered by the killing of community leader, Councillor Harrison Dube, who was shot dead outside his home in the township late last night. In the attack on the mayor's house tonight a room was set alight and windows were stoned.

Council Exonerates Doctors in Biko Death
MB261801 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1712 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Pretoria, April 26, SAPA — No disciplinary action will be taken against the four Port Elizabeth doctors who treated the black consciousness leader, Mr Steve Biko, prior to his death in detention in September 1977, the SA medical and Dental Council [SAMDC] decided today.

At a special meeting in Pretoria, which was held behind closed doors, the council rejected fresh demands for a public inquiry into the doctors' handling of Mr Biko on the grounds that no new evidence had come to light. And a spokesman for the council told newsmen afterwards that, as far as the council was concerned, "the matter is now closed."

He said the council had accepted the explanations submitted by the four doctors involved — Dr Ivor Lang, Dr Benjamin Tucker both district surgeons, a physician, Dr Colin Hersch, and neurological surgeon, Dr R.J.Keeley. "And the council has accordingly resolved that no further action be taken against the doctors," he said.

Although the council had decided on three occasions in the past not to prefer charges against the four doctors, fresh complaints about their handling of Mr Biko were lodged with the council in February last year. The complainants, five prominent medical doctors — Professor Frances Ames, Professor Trevor Jenkins, Professor Phillip Tobias, Dr L.I.Robertson and Dr E.N. Barker — demanded that a public inquiry be held into the conduct of the doctors who treated Mr Biko. Last October, they threatened to take legal action if the council failed to respond to their complaints. A preliminary committee was susequently appointed to investigate the complaints, and its report was laid before the council this afternoon for consideration.

In its report, the committee recommended that no further action be taken against the four doctors who treated Mr Biko. "The committee was of the opinion that all material evidence, which had been submitted in support of the present complaint, had also been considered by the committee and the council previously, and that no material new evidence had emerged such as warranted the rescision of the councils previous resolution," the report said.

According to a spokesman for the SAMDC, a motion calling for a public inquiry into the doctors' conduct had been tabled during this afternoon's sitting by one of the council members, Professor H.A. Shapiro, of Johannesburg. "But he withdrew the motion when it was pointed out to him that there was no substantially new evidence," the spokesman said.

The chairman of the Medical Association of South Africa (MASA), which has been criticised in the past for not adopting a stronger stand on the issue, Professor Guy de Klerk, described the outcome of the meeting as a "very unhappy situation". "I can say categorically that MASA is very concerned about the situation. But, unfortunately, we cannot review or rescind the decision." Prof de Klerk, a member of the council, said he felt an inquiry should have been held into the doctors' conduct. "In my opinion, the original decision (not to institute an inquiry) was a wrong one," he said.